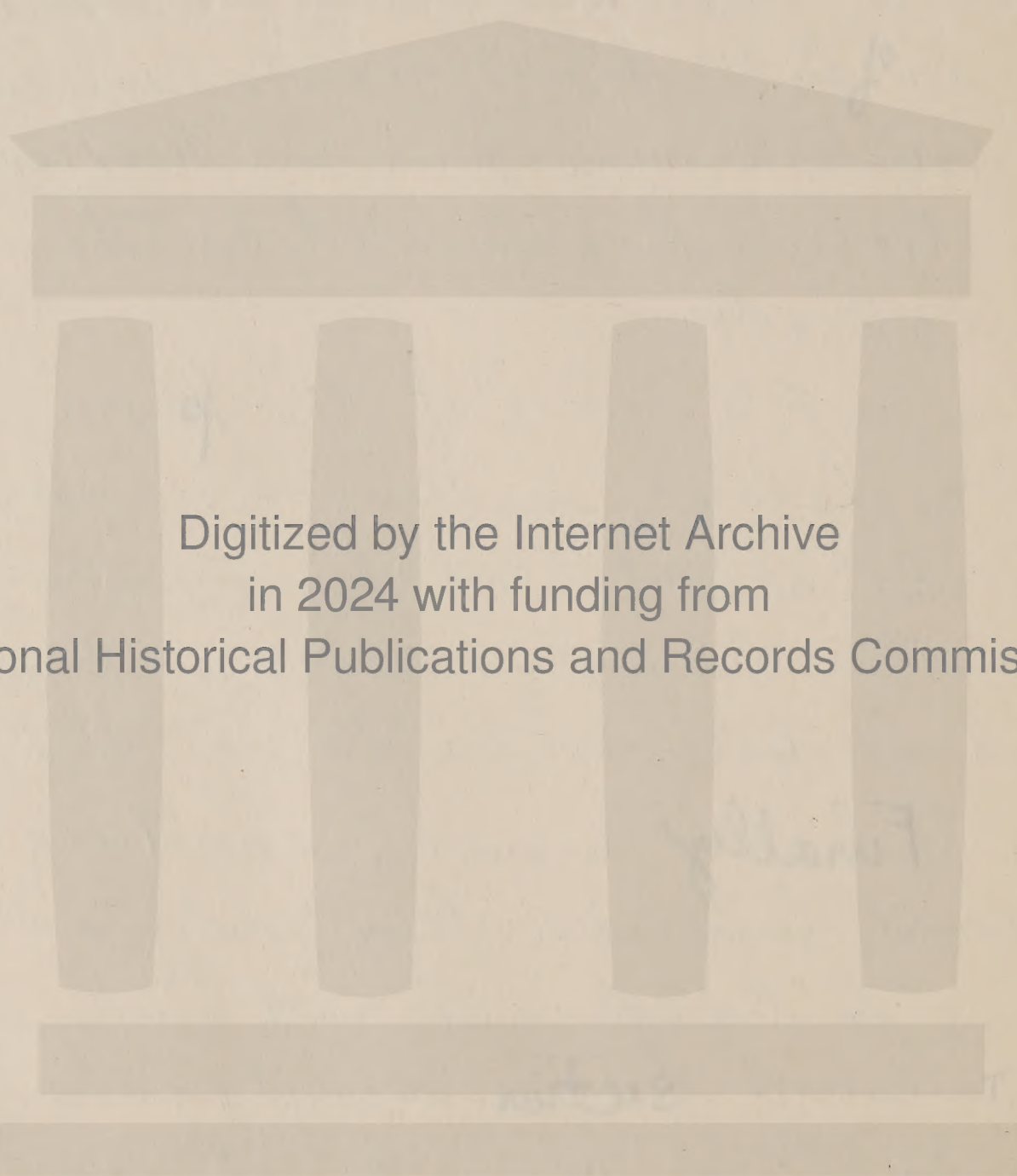


Report of H. N. Barron for week ending
Nov 27/934 1530

Pedro Gonzales is a native of Mexico, born ⁱⁿ that State known as ~~Lower~~ ^{Baja} California.

He is ^{of} full blood native Mexican stock; his ancestors were born in Mexico long before Columbus landed on the island of San Salvador.

His people were of the ^p poor class, his father a laborer, selling his labor when and where he could and for what he could get for it. As soon as Pedro became old enough he followed in the foot steps of his father. Finally a man scouting for labor for some American Railroad induced him to come to California and take employment as a Railroad ~~section~~ ^{section} hand, where he worked for some time. Eventually he drifted north to San Francisco and vicinity and ¹⁴ ~~fourteen~~ ¹⁵ ~~on~~ ^{he} fifteen years ago entered the employ of the Alaska Packers Corp. and has been going to Alaska every spring, coming back each fall since then. He went to



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Mexico a few day ago to stay until Spring.
He has made this trip about every other
fall since he has been in this country.

Pedro is not a Citizen and apparently
has no desire to become one.

He has been married but left his wife and
3 children a few years ago.

Pedro, like most Mexicans is not a money
lover. Mexicans are very fond of music,
song and wine and I should add, women.

Report of H. H. Barron for week ending
Thursday Nov 13th 1934

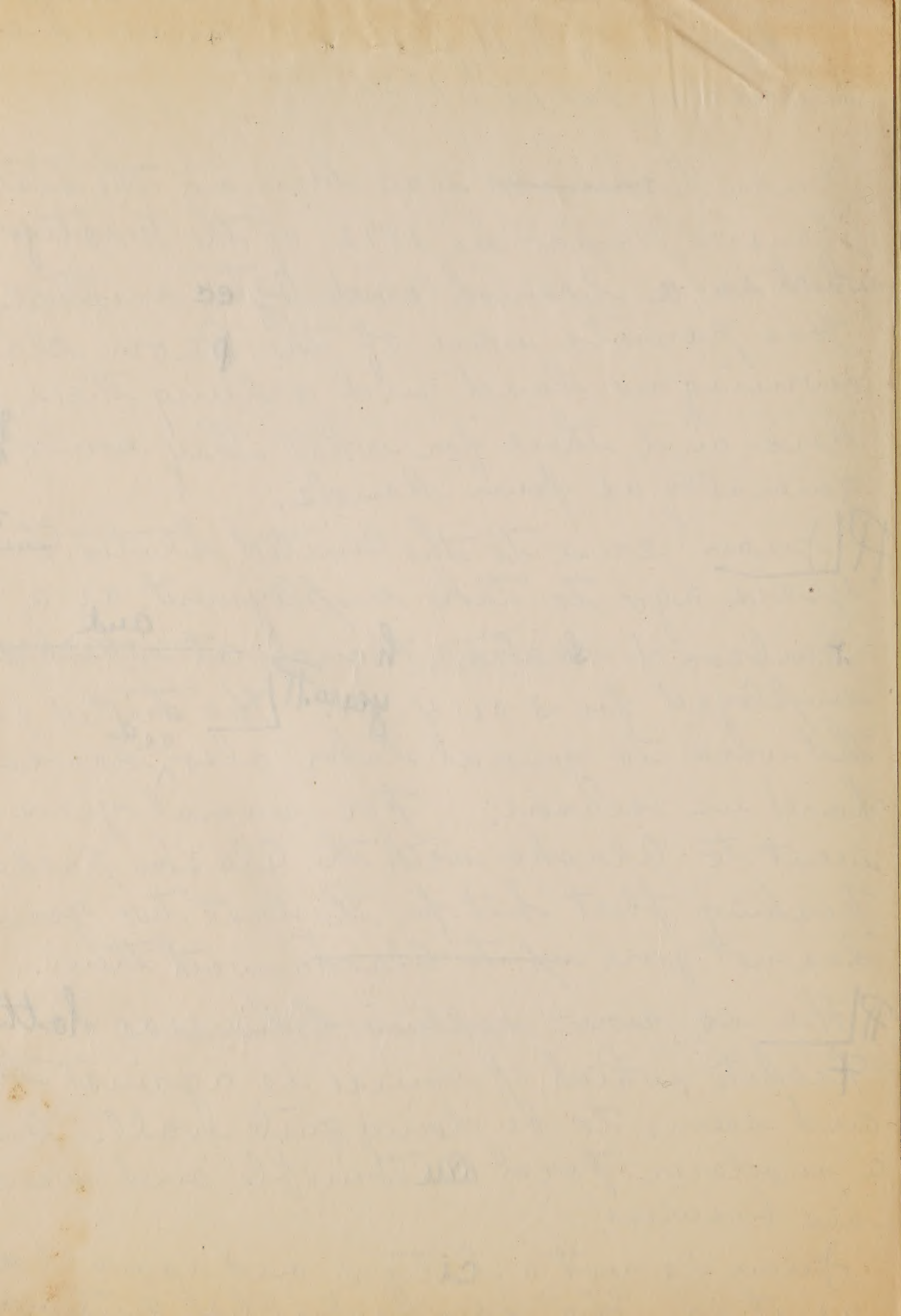
Juan Espinosa was born in the state of
Sonora, Mexico in 1892 of the Mestizo blood,
which is a Spanish and Aztec mixture.

His parents were of the Peon class,
owning no land and selling their labor
here and there for what they could ^{get} for it,
generally as farm hands.

|| Juan came to the United States ²⁰
years ago to take employment as a
Railroad Section hand ^{and} at which he was
employed for 3 or 4 years. || He drifted from
that work to general labor also ^{as a} harvest
hand in season. For several years he
went to Alaska with the Alaska Packers
Fishing fleet but for the last two years he
has not gone up to Alaska with them.

|| He is now selling Chinese Lottery
Tickets, which of course is against the law,
and seems to be doing quite well. He owns
a modern Ford ^{car} automobile and uses it in
his business.

Juan is not a citizen and is well satisfied
as it is. He speaks English quite well.



He has been married, but as is well
known Mexicans slip in and out of the
marriage relationship so easily that it
is difficult to check on them.

~~Pete Fernandez~~ was born in Mexico. He was one of a family of six children, some older & some younger than himself.

The family spent most of the time in Mexico doing agricultural work, occasionally crossing the border to work in the Imperial Valley or Arizona during a certain season and returning when the season was over.

At the time Pete ^{was} ~~became~~ about 16 yrs. ^{old} the family made a trip into Arizona and did not return to Mexico.

2

Pete worked with the rest of the family, following the fruit harvests & doing agricultural labor in between times, up until the time he was about 20 yrs. ^{earo} old. At that time he left the family and came to Oakland where he went to work in a soap factory. This was around 1924.

Since the time Pete left his family his father & mother have both died. Most of his brothers and sisters are still

3

following the fruit harvest.

Joe did not work long at the soap factory. He was able to find pretty steady work at different ~~fairly well paid~~ ⁱⁿ factory jobs, including the Fisher Body and a Corrugated pipe Co.

When the slump came in 1929 he was married and had 2 ~~children~~ ^{children}. He has 3 now. At that time he had a home partly paid for and some little money saved up.

Since 1929 he has

4

only been able to find
work occasionally. His
steadyest job has been
in a galvanizing plant
~~that~~ ^{which} was located in Emery
ville and which moved
to Richmond about 2 ~~years~~ ^{year}
ago. He has worked off
and on there for the last
4 or 5 yrs. He lost his
home in Berkeley and
when the galvanizing shop
moved to Richmond he
moved with it. The place
he lives in there is a
little 3 room house

5

almost under the embankment of the Santa Fe tracks. The furniture in the house is just those simple articles that are necessities. In the living room a couch that pulls out into a bed, 3 straight back chairs, a table and a small radio.

The house is on quite a large lot with a couple of fruit trees ~~on it~~ and a garden.

Last year Pete spent a couple of months in

the San Joaquin Valley
picking cotton. He
took his wife + 3 ^{children} ~~boys~~
with him. Both he
and his wife took
part in the cotton
strike, and during it
he joined the C + A W /
U. At the present time
he is working 3 days a
^{week} ~~wk.~~ at the galvanizing
plant.

He is about 30
yrs. old and is an
intelligent person. He
can read and write.

7.

and speaks English
with very little accent.
His features and his
build show that he is
all, or a large part,
Indian. He is ^{an} easy
going pleasant sort
of a fellow.

His wife looks to be
about his age. She does
not speak English well.
She is Mexican also.

Richard Wagner

Report of Raymond Kuth. 95
Re. Research work. 8/15/24

On Monday I called upon several Mexican families, who were more or less timid ~~and~~ ^{about} giving any information regarding themselves, but finally I found a family ^{to} whom I could speak ~~to~~ rather fluently.

The head of the family is 47 years old and his wife is six years younger and they have three children, the youngest two years old and the second ~~8 years~~ ^{5 years}, a girl and and a boy of 12 years of age.

The father was born in Baja, Lower California of moderate ~~parents~~ and went to schools there. His father owned a ranch and his principal market.

was selling beef to the various armies. When finally his father was killed in the Huerta Regime, he left the ranch and came to Los Angeles, where he had relatives.

He found work readily on a section gang of the Santa Fe Railroad and worked steadily for years.

Then he married and came to northern California to work as foreman on a section crew for the Western Pacific Railroad.

His wife is a native of Los Angeles and from what I can gather, their family has been in that vicinity for several generations.

The home conditions are far above the average Mexican family. The Children speak very well and while the parents are disciplinary, there is no sign of the Children even being whipped, and their general behavior is excellent.

The family has been on relief for the past two years and at present he is working on one of the projects for S. E. R. A. at Mc Laren Park.

His reasons for coming to this Country were the chances of employment and the continual revolts in Mexico.

He enlisted in the U. S. Army during the World's War but was stationed at Camp Lewis

and did not leave the
United States.

He is sufficiently intelligent
to realize that the present
economic conditions are a
natural aftermath of the
war and is very hopeful
about prompt recovery.

The family was originally
strict Catholic, they have
become more or less agnostic,
however the children still
attend Church regularly.

He is also very hopeful
about conditions in Mexico
and thinks a new prosperous
era is about to take
place there.

Respectfully

Raymond Keith

465
San Francisco, Calif.

is a
twenty nine years
Julio Chio. Mexican, age 29, single. Entered the United States at Tia Juana, eight years ago. Went to work as a laborer for a Japanese truck gardener in San Diego county, worked at that job for about twenty monthes and took what savings he had accumulated out of a monthly salary of thirty five dollars and went to Los Angeles where he went to work for the Pacific Electric Railroad as a track walker at the same time attending night school. At the present time he talks almost perfect and is ~~still~~ continuing his studies byb the medium of extension courses. He states that his parents are people of ~~some~~ considerable prominence in the state of Sonora, Mexico, and when he was 16 years of age succeeded in having him entered in the Mexican Army ~~XXXXXXX~~ academy at Vera Cruz, Mexico, where he acquired the rudiments of an education besides the military training, ~~but states that he did not care for a~~ military career and came on to the United States, preferring to make his way by his own efforts. States that after working in Los Angels for about a year and a half secured a position in an orchestra at Catalia Island where he stayed for almost a year, ~~when~~ he contacted an official of a local travel bureau by whom he is at present employed. He is the ~~first~~ *first* native of Mexico that the writer has ever come in contact with, out of ~~the~~ thousands ~~that~~ has taken out his naturalization ~~XXXXXX~~ papers. He has his first papers and states that as soon as he is able he intends to secure his second papers.
Come

R V Armstrong

Therese Fey
Report

Mexican

My home in Mexico was outside Linares and I had only
~~my~~ brother ~~that~~ was killed in the revolution. As soon as
I managed, say I was about 12, I went to work
in a carpenter's job. I ^{shall} never forget the day after
4 years or so when a stranger ~~did~~ ask ^{me} if I
would like to work for him and promised me

30 pesos and more. ~~He said~~ I went with him and
I found out he was a ~~conductor~~ ^{raider}. I worked about
2 months for him and then I asked him for more
pay what he refused so next week I quit.

In the meantime my father died and I made
the proposition to my mother to come with
me to Los Angeles. She would not come and
I left on the train alone. I have taken every
thing with me and arrived in Los Angeles safe.

Soon I found work and feeling lonesome I married
there. The following year we both went to visit my
mother and her parents in Hermosillo.

Well I think we had a nice honeymoon and
we just got back in time. You know I worked
in Los Angeles about 3 years and then I moved
up to San Francisco. Work was here plentiful
and I was glad to be away from Los Angeles.
I ~~have~~ been here about 15 years and my family
never suffered until the last 4 years when

work got scarce and we used up all our money. I don't know how it happened but you see I think a stranger with better perdmises got off with Maria my wife ~~and~~ so it happened that a year ago I had a divorce and the two children were given in my care. Well as you know I am having them ~~with~~ by the state and I am on relief as single man but I have to contribute for my ~~two~~ children ~~to~~ it seems my former wife wanted to ask the juvenile court for them.

I have been doing little odd jobs and just now I hardly can make ends meet. I wish I could find a way and have a place ~~to~~ to take the children with me.

I do not associate with others so easy and I only wish business would pick up. Yes I have been naturalized here and seeing I am voting I do certainly recommend to vote for Roosevelt. My opinion is when you work hard and be honest here there is always tricks played on the every side of you. I do work only $1\frac{1}{2}$ day on relief and things are high here for rent and food.

L 317

Gilbert ^{was} ⁱⁿ born ⁱⁿ Yucatan

Entered this country in 1925 with intention
of following his trade as shoemaker, but
was unable to obtain employment owing
to his inability to speak English, and he
worked temporarily for Southern Pacific as a
section hand. The following year married
and through the efforts of his wife learned
English pretty thoroughly. At present he is
employed by Mariassee Block Tanning Co.
performing this work to satisfaction and
a salary of \$3.00 per day which is much
more than he can do in Mexico. Has two
children and has no desire to return to
Mexico because he is an American and
is not interested in anything else. Seems
to be contented and likes the country.

Chas. J. Phillips

Mexican

Age 40

Married Two minors

Occupation Rough Carpenter

Lives East Oakland

^{young} Born in Mexico, he was one of a large family living near Hermosillo, Mex. which place is the center of the Yaqui District & has been the scene of many political & bloody conflicts. During one of which this family lost considerable by others reaching out for food & time thinned out the family ranks.

He went to Nogales & obtained work in a machine shop, coming to this country about fifteen years ago. Worked a while in an auto body factory, but was hit by depression & laid off, since which time he has picked up some work here & there & at present is a cannery worker.

Has two minor children in school, a real Mexican wife & the family as a whole, seem to symbolize endurance in combatting present day hardships.

1595

Theodor ~~Rey~~

Report Mexican

I was born and raised in Vera Cruz where I went to school up to my 12th year. We were near the school and I enjoyed it in we had ~~in school~~. My father was in the state building and when I was old enough I went to help him there ~~in one of these offices~~. I married when I was young and my husband said that he would like to see business in U.S.A. It was my first big long trip and I never could understand the change in climate as well as the language. Lucky for us we arrived here and went with our relatives where we felt like ^{at} home. We went to evening school and ~~what~~ ^{when} we could we helped in my brother in law store until about 2 years ago. My husband had many places in down town houses but now he is doing nothing special. I work for 3 days in the laundry and we can make it as we have no children. When we can manage we, like to visit our folks back home and we wait. I think it will change next year for better.

Mexicans

Langford

1882

Joe Garcia was born in Chihuahua, Mexico.

His parents, with Joe and his two older brothers, moved to Arizona when Joe was very small. He does not remember just how old he was. His father, very often his mother and one or both of his brothers and later Joe himself worked on farms in Arizona for probably seven or eight years.

They finally drifted into California. Joe's first job in this state was picking peas with the rest of the family in the Imperial Valley, near Brawley. The family lived in a fairly large tent pitched

in winter, wherever they
 could find shelter from the
 least wind; and in summer,
 if possible, where there was
 a little shade. They used the
 water from the irrigation
 ditches, and food sometimes
 got a little scarce in between
 jobs, but Joe thinks they
 had a much easier time
 than agricultural workers in
 the Imperial Valley have now.
 Their next move was to
 Los Angeles, and at the age
 of what Joe ^{thinks} ~~was~~ to have
 been about sixteen, he was
 blacking boots in a barber shop.
 The family left to pick
 oranges but Joe stayed in
 Los Angeles and learned the

barbers' trade in the shop where he had been blacking boots.

He next shifted into boot legging and worked for large outfits for several years. The last job was driving a car (his own), delivering to the sailors. He was picked up by the ^{police}. The police got him out of jail and paid him \$500 because of his car. ~~that~~ was confiscated.

He came to Oakland and started bootlegging on his own account. But business was not so good because of the depression, and the repeal of Prohibition.

finished him. He is working
on the S.E.A. now on a
road job.

He and his wife live
in a cheap two room apart-
ment in West Oakland. They
pay \$15 a month for it, in-
cluding gas for cooking and
electricity. It is better than
a great many of the cheap
apartments in that district.
The furniture is cheap but
comfortable, and they have
a wood stove. They have
fuel for it too. Not a very
common thing in West Oakland.
Joe's father and mother were
Mexican peasants but his features
are almost entirely Spanish.
His parents were unable,

to read or write. I don't know how much education Joe has been able to acquire but except for his accent, which is very pronounced, I should be unable to pick him out from a crowd of average high school graduates of his age (probably about 28 years) in California.

He is very willing to stand up for his rights, and will probably end up by being a "Pacifist" strong. He doesn't belong to any revolutionary organization as yet. He is class conscious and is very active in the S P A Union.

Harold Thompson

Mexican Holidays Observed are celebrated
on Sept and by whom

1146

1

Joseph W. Wilbur

There are so many Festivals and Holidays
in Mexico, that the subject could easily
fill a book. Each city town and village
has at least one specifically local cele-
bration yearly, plus its more or less
unofficial recognition of fiestas and
holidays celebrated nationally. There
is no complete calendar of Mexican
Festivals in existence and consequently only
two of the outstanding days are celebrated
by the Mexican Colony in San Francisco

September the 16th Mexican Indep-
endence Day -
Corresponds to the American 4th of July

It commemorates Mexico's Declaration ^{of} Independence in 1810 and ^{here} is annually celebrated in Mexico. It is here it is observed by the Mexican in San Francisco.

"The Society of Agto. de Sanos"
Composed of the more prominent Mexican women in S.F. take charge of the affair celebration. This society is perhaps 50 years old and collaborates with another society called the "Crosses de Sanos - Blue Cross" in the Sept 10th celebration. This is a smaller formal Mexican Society. In the afternoon of the 10th is a grand one and which resemble our own of that day. The day opens with a special mass

in the Mexican Church and
terminates with a great festival
on the California Road at Fresh and
Larkin Sts. St. It is attended by
some of priests and the Mexican Council
The entire affair is very of short
duration

December the 12th - The Feast of
Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe

This day is much religious and
commemorates the appearance of the
Virgin Guadalupe. The feston period
of weeks. In Mexico it is observed
by the entire population -

In S. Francisco it is observed
with a special High Mass in the

Church of Trinity House & perhaps
at Mason and Breckinridge. That of the
Masonic Colony attend the same and
most the House through out the
day. It is not a working day for
the Spanish people.

At night large 3000 attend
the great service of the day in the
Church which terminates in a
great Bonification

— to be continued —

1 492

Joe ~~is~~ is a 26 year old Mexican who was born in Cal^{ifornia}. His parents live in a small Mexican settlement, on the outskirts of Riverside Cal., called Casa Blanca. His father owns his own small place there ^{and} keeps a cow ^{and} some chickens. He also works part of the year as a section hand for the ^{Southern Pacific} S.P. Railroad.

Joe has a sister about 30 who is married ^{and} lives in Oakland. His mother died when he was about 7, ^{and} his father married again. He has 3 half brothers + 2 half sisters, all under 15 ^{years} old.

Joe works in a packing shed in Riverside during the new orange season, from about Dec. 15 to March 15. Then he goes to Orange County ^{and} picks Valencia oranges until around the first of June. From there he comes to Oakland where he works in a West Oakland cannery until some time in Oct. ^{then}. While he is in Oakland he lives with his sister usually staying there from

around the first of June ² untill the first of December.

He went 2 ^{years} to high school but still speaks English a little broken up. His parents ^{and} his sister are strong Catholics but from what I have seen of Joe, religion is among the least of his worries. He is not very intelligent.

During the last 3 seasons in which he has picked Valencia oranges he has taken part in strikes. He is a member of the cannery workers industrial union ^{and} has been fairly active in it during that one particular season of the ^{year}. Outside of that season he will take no part in the radical movement. He has the settled idea in his head that it is impossible ^{to} organize a successful union in a cannery or packing house. He does not seem capable of comprehending much outside of the immediate effect of a union or strike upon his wages.

He owns a brightly painted chevrolet sport roadster about 3 years old. ^{He} spends a good deal of his money on clothes and women. As he has only himself to support,

and is able to find work almost the year around ^{and} he is able to travel around with a pretty lively set of young fellows who drink + gamble quite a lot. This seems to keep him pretty well satisfied out ^{side} of work hours and probably accounts to some extent for his lack of interest in things of a political or economic nature.

Joe has promised to introduce me to his brother in law + sister so I will probably be able to get a report on them also.

Joe Morgan

San Francisco Calif.
Dec. 13, 1934

1593

Mr Paul Radin:
177 Post St.
San Francisco Calif.

Re: Research

On Monday & Tuesday I called on a Mexican family in The Fillmore District. The head of the family is 38 years of age. He was born in Chihuahua City in the State of Chihuahua.

His parents operated a sheep ranch on the outskirts of the City and his childhood was spent in herding ~~woolies~~ ^{sheep}. He went to school in a Catholic Mission and ~~as~~ one of the ~~brothers~~ ^{brothers} took an interest in him, ~~and~~ ^{and} taught him some English.

During one of the revolutions, their sheep were Confiscated and they were obliged to abandon the ranch and move northward, at which time his mother died, leaving the father with ~~three~~ children, ~~besides himself~~.

~~At that time he was and he had an~~
~~older brother and younger sister.~~

The family formally entered this Country at El Paso, Texas, and migrated to Ponca City Oklahoma, where the children entered the Public Schools. His Father found employment in the oil fields as a laborer. Later he became an expert driller and gained some wealth by taking shares in various oil ventures.

This enabled the Father to ~~send him~~ to Oklahoma University where he met his future wife, whose parents had sent her there from Mexico City. Her Father was ~~an~~ ^a ~~Governmental~~ ^{government} official.

They were married in Ponca City in 1921, and as the Oil boom faded, their wealth was lost in the same manner in which it had been obtained. His Father died shortly after and they moved to Los Angeles.

He readily found employment as a laborer and was ^{able} to provide for his family in a modest way. Shortly after a son was born and as employment became difficult, they decided to come north ⁱⁿ hopes of bettering their financial condition.

For several years they lived in ^{the} vicinity of Turlock and Fresno and various towns

where he picked fruit and worked in the Canneries.

In 1928 he came to San Francisco and obtained employment in the produce and vegetable market, ^{as truck driver} ~~driving a truck~~ and in other capacities.

They have a modest but sanitary apartment and the boy is now in Junior High ^{School}. Their general morale seems to be above the average and he is still employed ~~on~~ in the produce market.

His political sympathies were with Upton Sinclair and he is a firm believer in ^{the} Roosevelt recovery program. Their religion is Catholic and the whole family attends services regularly.

His general living conditions are far above the average in that particular locality as his employment is steady and therefore his income assured.

Respectfully

Raymond Keith

1896

Report Mexican

I was born in Oaxaca province state of Oaxaca in Mexico and don't remember much of my childhood. When we left for ~~the~~ ^{the United States} we settled on Manuel's farm in Texas where I went to school long enough to learn ^{to} read and write. I did work there as long as I remember, making my first move away from home to Los Angeles. I went about hunting for a job until I found a place in a sort of packing house. Everything went alright and I began to feel good. Some friends of mine made preparation to go to San Francisco and I packed up and joined. We all found easy work up here and I have worked in many places. I married a girl that was in the Preserve factory and we both worked and kept ourselves going. I have had a deal from the city charity but I would not switch back. Well we had our bad times and perhaps things are going to be better once more. My parents are dead and we have not been down in Texas since, but I like to stay here better than ~~than~~ ⁱⁿ Los Angeles. You can come and see me anytime. My children are enjoying school and my wife likes it here because she's a native daughter.

Capital Mexico

It is so many years ago that I don't remember anything of
much interest, ~~but~~ I was born in Mexico. My family
consisted of my grandparents, my parents, and ^{my} 4 brothers & ~~one~~
sister. After school hours in the morning, our father
and mother ~~used to~~ ^{used to} ~~go~~ ^{take} us to school. You can think of
the school ^{work} ~~work~~ I had to do to have ~~that~~ ~~an~~
address at a school there I went for about 6 years.
Then I was a big man, well, say 16, there was a call to arms
as Carranza had to suppress his opponent Villa. ~~and~~
surely have seen plenty of fight ⁱⁿ with me other fellows.
For years it lasted, and finally there was peace and
^{Quiet} ~~business~~ in Mexico again. Many things have happened
in my old home, and when I could not marry
the girl I wanted, I went to the States of
North America and ^{earned my living} ~~was~~ in San Francisco as
a gardener. ~~earn my living~~ ~~existence~~. Many years
have passed and I have taken to the profession
of all trades and got many a sweet day.
Yes there have been good times again about
10 years ago when things began to slacken.
In the meantime I have ~~made~~ a family
and my 3 boys and 1 girl are well somewhere.
The last good paying job I had was in the
Union for Texas and at that time it was not
enough to work sometimes with little pay.
I have been ~~working~~ ^{working} ~~partially~~ ^{partially} at home.

again to be ~~sure~~ no matter what it was.
Well, I reckon that hard struggle for living began
now ~~and~~ I was working across the Bay
a short time and ~~saw~~ that it was not pay.
As I was near a country I applied there for
work and for a short time it was better
than ^{going} across the Bay, & eventually I could
not ~~more~~ make ends meet and one nice
day I had to apply for help ~~and~~ during
that ^{time} I was working for groceries ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ various
carts of the city. I liked the grocery department
most but most things seemed to go
wrong, then the ~~new~~ started to ^{new}
~~quarters~~ ^{which were not to my liking.}

H ~~quarters~~ ^{which were not to my liking.} ~~where it was against me~~
I have tried at days to keep away from
the so called ~~quarters~~ ^{quarters} for reasons stated
before. So many here some years have passed and
I wish somebody would open up a new factory
here or do something as ~~the way of living~~
in conditions as they are now it is not
worth much to struggle along. By now all
my children have reached school age and
have been ~~in~~ in the public schools.
Should it be made possible to consider a good
man good and have him ^{paid} ~~say~~ accordingly ^{ly} I think
we could sort all bad men and have them
in the ~~line~~ working for them wages. So conditions
would be better amongst good men and
as both must be considered and taken into

Case No. 1.

Dinasio Ch^{Wps}in. ^{16 has} born in the state of Chihuahua, Mexico. ¹⁴ has been in the United States for about 25 years. ^{His} held jobs as farm hand in Mexico and also worked in a smelter works. ^{and he has} first job in this country was as a railroad hand. ^{His} father was an agricultural worker in Mexico, ^{and he has} lived only a few months in one place while in this country. From El Paso, Dinasio moved with his family to Los Angeles where he worked on a road gang repairing highways. When he could find no work in the city of Los Angeles, he went out into the agricultural fields near Fresno each year and picked cotton, grapes, and other seasonal crops. After a few years of this migratory work, he moved to Crockett where he obtained work in a smelter plant, and later, also in Crockett, work in the C. and H. sugar mill. He worked there for nearly three years. He then went to Torme to work in a brickyard and as work became scarce he reverted to his old occupation of farm hand in the grape fields around Fresno. Since 1922 he has been a migratory worker, having been in many towns in the San Joaquin valley: Los Banos, Merced, Modesto, et al., and now he has work in the hop and grape fields near Santa Rosa. ^{He} has lived 4 years in Berkeley in a dingy home next to the R.R. tracks and is now 54 years of age. He had a hard time of it from 1920-1922, not having much work. In 1922 things picked up and then slacked off. He has had no regular work since 1924. He has had 6 children, 2 of whom have died. He at times has worked in rooming houses, in brickyards, in tanneries, and in the coconut mill in Berkeley. His wife has not worked at all and he has had opportunities to break strikes but has consistently refused.

Case No. 2.

Augustino Lozano. ^{Wps} born in Guanajuato, ^{which is} Mexico. ¹⁴ Situated near the capital of Mexico. ¹⁶ Was 26 years old when came to this country. Studied in the high school and later went to Mexico city as an assistant to several secretaries of war, interior etc. ~~First came to Texas. Was spent 3 years in Berkeley. He has worked in the tannery in Berkeley and also in the El Dorado coconut mill. At pre-~~

Cavarría - San Felipe road.
Sister in Ramos Camp, Hayward.

237
238

Gonzalo Cavarría came from Michoacan, Mexico in 1882. His father was a farmer, the best of his livestock being cows. He worked on shares but was compelled to leave his for the cows were not wanted - only horses and oxen. Gonzalo and his father were pushed about from Michoacan to _____ trying to do ranch work. His father finally decided to take up his grandfather's trade of "masonry". Gonzales helped him do his work and then they would sell it every day as they were traveling toward the United States. From pure curiosity and perhaps hunger they wanted to come to the U. S. but they found they could not get across the border for they did not have enough money and did not know anyone who would take them across illegally. A Bishop sheltered them for several weeks during which time they proceeded with their masonry. Gonzales father saw many lovely statues in the church and the Bishop's home and decided

he could make them too. These small pieces of work would bring him more money so he sent his son to school until he was twelve. At that age Gonzales had to quit school for his father could not get as much money any more. He became a "peon" on a ranch.

"Four years after that I got enough money to come to the United States but I soon went to Mexico City where I got a job as a conductor for a street car company," he said. ~~He~~ worked at this getting 75 dollars a month for three years and then because of illness he resigned. He came to Los Angeles and very soon found a job in a freight station of the S.P. Lines at 2.00 a day and worked 8 hours. He married a Mexican girl and had a little daughter who died when small. Several years later he was transferred to Oakland to the baggage department and was paid more - 3.00 a day. ~~He~~ met some American owners who offered him a job and a home

in Southern California if he chose to work in the Beet fields. There they let him have a couple of acres of land and a small house that he could repair. He planted vegetables which gave him a little money until prices went down. Beets became so low that he had to move elsewhere for a job. He came back to Oakland and ~~again~~ went back to his old job.

Since that time he has been living in Oakland across from the tracks with many of his native friends. He has his seven children, his wife and two grandchildren living in his home, which consists of about seven rooms and a porch.

Three of his sons are working in a Ford plant in Richmond earning good money to help support the family. They work five days a week at 4 dollars a day.

R His oldest daughter works at the 12th St. "Blime Dance" hall. She would like to quit her job because she gets so

Tired. It is her task to dance with men who come in and pay for the dance. She gets a nickle for every dance and sometimes a tip and her average week wage is fifteen dollars. She has to work from 8 to 12 and until 1 on Saturday ^{nights} ~~sites~~ for people from neighboring towns come in to dance.

Gonzales has put another of his daughters through Business College and has succeeded in living to see her happily married to an Indian man from Mexico. She works at the railroad office in Richmond and her husband, the Indian, works in the railroad yard. Though she is Mexican she lives with a Pueblo "tribe" of Indians in Richmond. She finds it hard to live there for they eat and act so differently. Her food has always been seasoned ~~spiced~~ highly while the food of her husband's people ^{is} ~~has~~ not. In back of her house stands a huge brick and mud baking oven. It is shaped like

an Eskimo's "igloo" and is put together with mud. The floor of the oven stands about one foot off the ground so that a fire can be built under it. Corn cakes are made and baked in this oven an hour. Mexicans as well as Indian people around the neighborhood come to use the oven.

The Santa Fe Company has given the Mexicans permission to live in some of their cabins. The houses form a square U around a huge flower and vegetable garden. Each house joins another and consists of two small rooms. The rooms appear more dirty than humble and are used only as a sleeping and eating place. The houses have huge ground porches on them and that is where they spend their leisure, entertain, wash clothes, iron, and prepare some food.

After they eat in the late afternoon the men all go off to pool halls or dances or to see girls while

their wives all sit at home together. The younger girls in the group make it a habit of attending meetings at the Y W C A every Thursday and Sunday. At that time any Mexican or Indian girl who wishes may come. They are congregated so that they may talk about their old homes and learn new things about the new one. They talk Spanish during these meetings and do not mind if Americans listen.

~~Bob Hansen~~
Rudy Lee

Reader From

Report

Mexican

1409

I was born in Saltillo Mexico
and had ~~fair~~ ^{good} schooling. We had
what you call here a little farm,
but we only raised enough food
for our own use. I ~~did~~ helped as much
as I could with my other brothers.

When I was about 18 I wanted
to marry but my father objected so
to forget I ~~went~~ ^{came} to the United States.

I soon was among Mexicans here and
found that the women were extremely
high-hat and went by the latest styles.

I did not approve much and ~~it~~ ^{was a long} time

~~getting~~ ^{getting} used to it. I visited my home once
again and found that the ways of dear
old Mexico were no ~~more~~ ^{larger appreciated} ~~so appreciable~~

But I think I have seen too much to my
likes and so when I returned here again
I ~~intended~~ ^{decided} to stay for good.

Now I know that I was just the
idiot for the waterfront and there I
went and got a good hard job.

I belong to the union and have 4 children.
I wish everything here would be regulated
in unions. I think 8 hours a day
and 5 days a week is plenty of work
and ~~it leaves~~ ^{it leaves} 3 days to observe with the family.

Report

Mexican

If it is necessary for rush work overtime ^{there} should be some pay and the hour at present with such high cost of living ^{should be} not less than \$1.50. Night shifts of course ^{should be} 50% more. I know with not enough money or little wages everybody gets discouraged and sluggish. By my own experience I know that no money in ^{the} pockets starts all troubles, as ~~like~~ it was in Mexico.

What I would suggest here would sound like this. The stores should be operated and owned by the consumers. No chain stores or syndicate owned stores should ~~not~~ ^{be} allowed to exist. All wages must be earned and persons not able to earn wages as prescribed by unions should be working piece work until they can estimate how much is required for a days work.

R [If any person cannot earn enough, the union should change his work and place him where he earns enough to make an honest man's living. After 45 a man should be entitled ^{to a} pension if he can prove that he ~~was~~ ^{worked} over 25 years at the same trade.

1494
San Francisco, Calif.

Enrique Gonzales. Mexican, born at Tuxpan, state of Vera Cruz, Mexico. He says his home was about twenty miles from the town where he was baptized, his home being located on the Sanuco river where it enters the gulf of Mexico. His father farmed a small plot of ground and ran a string of lobster traps and fished, selling his catches in the town of Tuxpan. Enrique states that at the age of seven his duties were laid out for him, which consisted of driving two burros to market twice a week or oftener, he had very little opportunities for education as it was too far to town for him to attend a school so his only schooling was three days every other week when a priest came to the little community and held classes for the children there. At the age of sixteen his mother died from snake bite and he says they had had about a year of bad luck, so his father sold what land he owned, his boats and fishing equipment, went to Tampico and after making the necessary arrangements with the consul, there embarked for the United States, there being three in the party, his father, his sister and himself, his sister at this time being around twelve years of age. They landed in San Pedro, Calif. in 1915 and after passing the immigration station they proceeded to Los Angeles where they rented a small place in the Mexican quarters. A week or so later his father secured employment through an agency, along with several other families of Mexicans they piled their belongings into trucks and were taken to a ranch operated by a Japanese located about half way between Los Angeles and San Francisco where they were furnished with quarters and went to work in the fields as beet pickers. They stayed at this occupation and on this place for some months when he says while he, his father and sister were at work one day a man came into the field and questioned them. This man was some kind of a county well fare worker and the outcome of it was that he and his sister were made to attend school, his sister going full time and he three days a week. About a year later he says his sister left with an itinerant Mexican farm worker and since that time he has heard nothing of her. After about two years he came to San Francisco, leaving his father. He arrived in San Francisco looked up a friend of his whom he had met on the ranch and through the friend secured work as a milker and laborer on a dairy ranch close to San Francisco. Shortly after this he was drafted or went into the army and was sent to Camp Kearney, Calif. where he stayed for the duration of the war. After being discharged he returned to San Francisco and went back to work at the same dairy where he was formerly employed, at this time he married. Shortly after this his employer sold his milk cows. Gonzales states he had some money saved and made some sort of arrangements to stay on the place, he bought a cow from his employer, a large flock of chickens, and went into business for himself. He says he has been on this place ever since, has two children and has always managed to make a living of some sort or other, states he would like to become a citizen and has intended to take these steps at different times but puts it off and so far has done nothing about it, says his main reason for this move would be so that he could purchase the place where he has lived for the past fourteen years. He is very happy in his present condition and states that he is living on a much higher scale than he would be able to under the same circumstances in his native land.

R V Armstrong

d 175

and Enrique Mendez, Mexican of Spanish
Irish parentage, was born at [unclear]
about 1890. He has a lovely voice and
speaking fluently both English and
Spanish he is a most popular singer in
the show bands.

Later he took up engineering and became
well known in the lines. He married young, and for
many years earned a good living for
himself and family in some small
mechanical industry; running the lathe
machines, working in garages, and
working shops. In a section of
the world war, having worked in the
heavy artillery, with the [unclear] of tanks.

In 1922 he was employed in
the shops at Pocatello, Idaho, on the
Oregon Short Line. The O.S.L. shops
with its million dollar payroll was
the backbone of Pocatello, and the
little desert town was known from
coast to coast. The merchants of
Pocatello lived by the [unclear] of the
shopmen that were spent in their
shops. Now, however, these merchants did

not realize that vital fact in the year 1922. That year saw a vital labor dispute and a strike of shop men was called. The strike grew and in order to enforce their demands a sympathy strike of all crafts was called. This was the middle of summer and tourist travel to Yellow Stone Park was in full swing. Yellowstone is known ^{as the} "the Gateway to the Gate City" (gateway to the Yellow Stone Park)

The trump card was played when the Electrical Workers came out. The A. S. E. ruled supreme in the Y. S. P. It carried the tourists to and from the Park, by bus and train and owned the hotels at which they stayed, both in the Park and in the Gate City. But with the coming out of the electricians the A. S. E. plant, which furnished power for the entire Park, ceased to function. The Park was dark and the dissatisfied tourists were leaving.

Those driving their own cars left post haste and those dependent

upon the O S L was having no faith
in they could keep business on that
a ride. I looked for the same
tourist business and incidentally
for the O S L

The strike was 100 ft, and the
Union was to come, but some
had power. Public opinion was
turned against the strikers by the
exodus of tourists. The merchants
thought only of the tourist trade they
were losing, not of the million
dollar payrolls the strikers had
been spending with them, of the
successful businesses built up
thru the years on their payrolls.
By this small loss the sympathy
of the public was turned to the
over-night. There were demonstrations
and show of discontent and rumors
of a break.

The O S L security changes were
successful. With the turning of Wall
Street trading they offered Wm. with
his budget to a large family an "Executive"
job as foreman of the Extr. plant at
a fat salary if he would start the



Swigine Mundy - 4

which roared at Yellow Stone Park.

Mundy confronted with a possible loss of this job if the strike should fail, rumors of disruption in the ranks of labor, five children to feed and another one on the way. A good piece of money for the job and a fat salary thereafter. A little more for the wife's education and some of the portmanteau of life for the children. Loyalty to his brother, loss of a job, and:

"If you don't do it, some one else will."

So Swigine Mundy succumbed to the profits of greed. The plant at Yellow Stone Park commenced to turn and like a small break in a dam the united front of the strikers was undermined in an avalanche of ruthlessness, greed and treason. At the hard won battles of organized labor on the A. & P. were swept away over night. Again the trains streamed over the rails with their loads of tourists. A holiday spirit was in the air as long pent up emotions were unleashed. The lights of the Park burned brightly, but not

1)
Now named
great
crews

so in the heart of Enrique Mendez; no light burned there, for he knew that his reward and ^{just} fairly earned, was the hatred of his fellows.

Events moved swiftly after that. Strikers were given the privilege of returning to work in an open shop. Some returned but many left the town. Later there was established a "Company Union". Wages in a few months ^{were} almost cut in half, and a speed-up and stretch-out system inaugurated ^{about} the shop. Months passed and with the pay roll cut in two merchants began complaining. Many of them were forced out of business. But did the O. & L. officials consider their grievances? Oh no, they were too busy reaping the profits of their strike-breaking campaign which they do not spend in the Gate City. The merchants of the town were beginning to see that where the payroll of Union Labor is attacked they are attacked also, and the town's trade dwindles into insignificance in this far off year of 1935. Walk along the streets of this Company Union town today and empty

Curique Monday. -6-

Buildings with yawning doors and gaping windows greet you everywhere. Walk farther along the streets and avenues where you see the children of well paid workers played on grass and asphalt ^{then} follow into shanties, lanes between the weeds and ragged children sitting on broken steps and side walls. Go further into the country, here the devastation is more telling. Farm houses with their paint washed off by snow or rain and desert sand storm, windows boarded up or the tenants left hurriedly in expectation of better employment in some distant place.

^{of old fields}
^{are now}
^{grown to}
^{weeds} } Perhaps their dreams or hopes did not materialize but they did not return. Their live stock roams the hills on wild bands ever on the increase but there are none to claim them except the A.A.A. (you may read this A.A.A.) for they ^{are} worthless except to keep them out of the market and protect private profits.

But Curique got her easy job with fat pay in wages, and with her family moved to Ogden. They were

Enrique Mundy. - 7 -

able now to live in a good home. It
was their own, they were buying it
by the monthly payment plan. For
once they had good furniture that
belonged to them (some more payment
plan) and all the family had good
clothes. The little girl went to dancing
school and the boys took music
lessons. They had life insurance
to make the family's future secure.
a checking account at the bank and
charges accounts in the stores, and
they had a car. The new baby arrived
and Mrs. Mundy for the first time had
a private nurse at the hospital and
expert care afterwards. Life was worth
living and Enrique knew that
she had a secure future.

However, by 1929, Enrique Mundy
reached the age of 22, the age of
the C.I.O. He was definitely
at a point where he could adapt to
an industrial environment. By which all
employees must agree. There is no
argument, there is no question. More
than that, there was no mass organization
of faithful workers to back up his

promise
never
nothing

demands. ~~Bozique~~ was alone.

In the ~~subsequent~~ months that followed the ~~Montags~~ disposed of their house, then their furniture, turned the life insurance into cash and disposed of everything except the car.

Finally in that resort they piled all their worldly goods and the family into the car and set out to find work of any kind any place.

But the highways were filled with the broken down cars of ~~Montags~~ from all over the country bound on a similar mission, and under such conditions jobs were not plentiful. With the general trend of travel they drifted west, earning a scanty living with the aid of all the family when visiting of crops. But this was a precarious existence and during their stay in the Imperial Valley they became involved in the agricultural ^{tricks} and ~~game~~ ~~Montags~~, both of eighteen years not below to understand what organization meant and what to do about it. Both he and his father were tireless workers in the days

of organizing the Peasantry and Agricultural workers.

However, not satisfied with that, they decided that not only should employed workers be organized but also unemployed workers, and an educational campaign was instituted among unemployed workers in the East Bay that today has spread to such proportions that it is soon to become a state wide organization. This union of the employed and unemployed workers has no more ardent support than Enrique Mendez. I was with him from the first. My long and bitter experience that he should have known in 1922.

George Henry -
- Lucille Gillispie

Feb 27-28.

by the various and diverse operators that
 arise from the ranks of capitalism. The
 operator who acts also as an arbitrator
 stands in a peculiar position between
 the lawyer who does not speak Spanish
 and his client who does not speak English.
 Due to pressure of circumstances, this
 graft and feed of a system he is forced
 to live by the law, rather than vice versa,
 and takes his tribute money from
 both the lawyer and client. In a last
 resort he is tolerated by the legal
 profession but none the less detested.
 The operator is the by-product of a
 system rotting in its own decay.

However, this operator, gambling
 his life decided he was worth while and
 decided to handle the case. He knew
 the ropes, and since the national in-
 formation has its headquarters in
 Salt Lake City it is deemed less
 expensive to handle the case there
 where, because of the Mormon influence,
 they are sure of a favorable verdict.
 To handle it here would mean long
 drawn out litigation and the possibility
 of an unfavorable verdict for California.

is notorious for its anti-labor legislation
and policies.

They are counter ^{at} little trouble
and in due course ^{were} awarded a
judgment against the railroad for
the time of \$600. The ^{was} easy
money for the adjuster, he charged
himself \$200, kept \$100 to go
and put them on the back in business
fashion, and like the good father
he will send his son to look wife
in Mexico.

All is well and everyone is
satisfied. But sometimes there is a
chip and this is one of those times.
Jose's wife begins writing for money.
She cannot find anything. Jose
goes to the adjuster. In two days,
the adjuster had received the sum
of a few thousand dollars for
Jose's wife. He will send it
right away. Jose is satisfied, everything
will be alright. But soon the wife
writes again, she cannot find without
money. Jose goes to the adjuster.
The adjuster promises to take care of
this insignificant matter.

The incident is repeated again
and again. Months will fly and
still the affair is unsettled. But
what about the adjuster. Times are
hard, he needs the money to meet
other obligations and carry on his
business of "adjusting". He really
intended to put the money back,
but property values have dropped,
he cannot mortgage his property
for even what he paid for it.

He has many houses but they
are empty, no one has money to
pay rent for them, even rent has
fallen and he shall lose them.
This year he has not even been
able to buy a much needed suit
of clothes and his children are getting
thin and he has no money.

But Joe and his wife are
demanding their money and the
adjuster under the State Savings
and Office trying to borrow money
on credentials and past records. But
no money can be borrowed. He says
that perhaps the adjuster is slowly ruining
him. The money is gone.

June twenty -

- San Joaquin College
March 1.

Subject - Mexican.

This subject was born on a rancho in Mexico ~~and~~ in the province of Baja California. His parents were educated and hoped to send him to the University to study a profession. His desires, however, were in a different direction, and at the age of fourteen he ran away from home, and went to Tijuana where he managed to get along by doing odd jobs around the rail track. He was fascinated by the gambling clubs, and at night was a constant hanger on at the gambling tables where he wasn't chased away.

He absorbed a lot of gambling knowledge and in a few years was managing to earn a living gambling, and gradually became fairly well known as a gambler at the rail track and at the gambling clubs.

In 1929 he was employed by one of the clubs as a blackjack dealer and a dice table attendant. He stayed at this job for two years, and then was forced to leave Mexico because of some trouble, the nature of which he refused to discuss.

He came to San Francisco where he stayed for a short time. In September, 1931 he secured a job as a dealer at a blackjack table at a gambling club in Chicago and moved to Oakland to be nearer to his place of employment. Later he moved to a house near the place where he

was employed, and has lived that since,
while holding the same job.

He is thirty one years of age and unmarried.
He speaks English fluently, and follows the
political affairs of the local and national govern-
ments through the newspapers.

Altho he likes living in Oakland, and
finds living conditions generally better here, he
misses the apartment which he enjoyed in
San Francisco, altho he finds life more interest-
ing since the opening of the Bay Meadows
race track, which he claims will improve
San Francisco by putting more money in circula-
tion.

He approves of Roosevelt's ideas, altho
he is slightly cynical in regard to S. C. R. C.
policy, as he has seen many men lose
their enormous relief wages at the gambling
tables where he works. He insists that
conditions are improving and points to the
fact that more money is being ~~wasted~~ ^{waged}
at the club where he works, than during
any of the past three years.

Edwardo Vargas, Mexican, age, 34, born in the city of Chihuahua in the state of Chihuahua, Mexico. His father was an employe of one of the large cattle ranches of that vicinity owned by a British cattle company. His childhood memories are mostly centered around the armed disturbances that afflicted that country. Says his father rode with Villa and Orozco and was killed while he was still a child. At the age of sixteen he joined the insurgents under Orozco and after several years campaigning off and on entered Baja California under the command of Sam Mesby who had been a soldier of fortune in Mexico for years. Ended his semi-military career at Tia Juana Mexico, in May of nineteen eleven when he states the detachment he was with were almost annihilated by federal troops and he crossed the line into the United States at San Pedro Calif. as a refugee and was taken in custody by United States troops and held for a period of about six months and then released. Worked at several jobs around that vicinity for a period of about six years, the longest single period of employment being a job held as a clerk in a general store owned by an American born Mexican close to the border where he stayed eight years. Joined the American army at the outbreak of the world war and was discharged at San Francisco. states he took advantage of the simplified manner of obtaining his first papers during his term in the army and after being discharged secured his second papers. Worked at several different positions around San Francisco and in 1929 bought a small place at Half Moon Bay. In the mean time and shortly after his discharge from the army had married and now had two children. In 1930 he secured steady employment with the Municipal Railway as a track laborer which position he still holds. He states in 1932 he went on part time some weeks only getting two and a half days work and says at this time he sold his equity in his home as it was too far for him to come back and forth to work. With what money he realized from the sale of his home he states he intended to purchase a home in some part of San Francisco but his curtailed employment and sickness began to eat into this sum and he says before he knew it the extra money was gone. and as his work has not improved very much he is still renting a small place. has one child in the fifth grade at school and one in the first grade. is very proud of his children and seems genuinely grateful for the advantages they have in this country and contrary to most of the people of his race is interested in civic affairs, politics, etc. talks very good English and says he has started to take up studies with his oldest boy and intends to follow them as his son goes through school.

Generalization

Mexicans in San Diego County

From personal observation and contact I would classify the Mexican population of San Diego county into four types.

First, American born Mexicans descendants of families who have been here for several generations. These families were of those who came to San Diego in the early days of California. Their ancestors may be pure Spaniards or a mixture of Spanish and Mexican blood. In Old Town may be found this type; and because these families have lived in the same locality, sometimes in the same house, for many years, they still retain their Mexican identity. The present generation does not speak Spanish, or if they speak it, it is a very slangy and Americanized Spanish hardly understood by an educated Mexican. They have no contact with "the old country" and have lost all interest in its affairs.

The second classification would include Mexicans who have come to this country within the last twenty-five years. This type represents the modern, middle class of Mexico. They came to this country seeking a better standard of living after their economic security had been destroyed by the successive revolutions in Mexico. In this country they have gone into various fields of business and have found financial stability. Many of them own their homes and participate in community activities. Their children have attended the public schools and the universities and colleges. The boys have gone into the business world as bank clerks, salesmen, and other occupations of the middle class. The girls have also gone into the business world on a par with American girls; many have married American boys.

Spanish is spoken in the homes: some of the older generation do not speak English, although well educated and having a high standard in the knowledge of art, music and literature. This older generation keeps a long distance eye on the affairs of Mexico. It takes an interest in economic and political and, of course, religious conditions there but has no desire to take part or offer a remedy thereof.

A third classification would be of Mexicans of recent migration, mostly because of political pressure. Some are refugees who had no choice in leaving their country. Their stay in the United States is only temporary and they are looked on as famous visitors, even by their resident country men. While in this country they take no active part in the affairs of Mexico but keep a very keen eye on developments therein, always with the idea of returning and regaining their former prestige. Some of the younger and more active of this type contact and frequent leaders of this country with the idea of learning American policies and establishing friendly relations between the two countries. They are those ~~that~~ lend color to any gathering or function of civic importance.

4, The last classification is of Mexican unskilled labor. This is the type best known by the average American and the type brought to mind when the word Mexican is used. Most of these people were brought to this country to provide cheap labor at the time of crop picking, such as cotton, beets, etc. Their status in Mexico was of a servant class and would come in contact with the last two classifications only on that basis. They are of mixed Indian blood and many are illiterate. The children and some of the men have learned to speak English

but few of the women have had the need or desire to do so as they have no interests to speak of outside of the home. Their standard of living is low, but they consider themselves fortunate in being able to work in this country, as, however low the wages they will work for seem to other people, they are higher than they would receive in their own country.

F.E.O.
American Guide: Minority Survey
Mexican Population
San Diego Project
Engracia de Rosado
Marion Towle
Paul Johnson

INTERVIEW NUMBER FIVE

Monday night my son and I enjoyed the hospitality of a childless middle-aged couple who came to San Diego seventeen years ago. During the conversation I gathered that they came from Mexico city, where the husband was teaching in the public schools. The wife has never worked outside her home, she said. According to their story they came here because of the unsettled conditions in Mexico, and attracted by the wonderful climate of San Diego, which they believe to be similar to that of Mexico city, save for the excessive rain there.

This family who could be well classified as middle class Mexicans, own the five-room house they live in on Logan Avenue. The house is modestly furnished, ~~and everything is~~ clean and orderly. There is a piano in the parlor, rugs, and overstuffed furniture, and with the exception of many pictures hung on the wall, the home resembles the habitation of the average American working man.

Professor B. works at the Telephone Company as an electrician in the battery department, and in his spare time he writes articles and occasional poetry for the Mexican magazines.

As the couple had promised me, an elderly Mexican woman was there to tell me stories. So after we had conversed for a while and glasses of wine were passed, the old woman asked, "Have you ever heard the tale of la curiosa (the curious one)?"

"No," I said, "but I'll be glad to hear it." And pulling her black shawl well over her head, the old woman commenced:

"La curiosa was a young woman (muchacha) who did not believe in ghosts or ghost stories. One day she was told that for three nights, beginning the 31st of October, the souls of the departed ones (finados) step out of their graves to visit their relatives, or haunt and punish those who had offended them in life.

"Oh, no, I don't believe in that foolishness," the girl said, with scorn, and to prove it, one Hallowe'en night she opened her window and stood watch to see the ghosts pass by. The girl was advised against that procedure, but the stubborn one paid no attention. As the clock struck twelve, a soft murmur of voices ~~called~~ ^{attracted} her attention. Frightened, the curious girl looked out of her window and the blood froze in her veins. A long procession of white-robed figures, carrying lighted candles in their hands was coming down the street.

"Repentant to have doubted the words of her elders, the girl tried to draw away from the window but she could not move an inch. With eyes opened wide with fright, she watched them pass by her window, murmuring as if they were praying. The figures had a veil over their faces so she could not see their features.

Suddenly a tall figure, leaving the procession came close to her, and blowing the flame of his candle, said, "Muchacha, take this candle and keep it for me. Tomorrow at this time I shall come for it."

Terrified, the girl took the candle, and as she went to put it away she noticed that the candle was the bone of a human leg. Early next morning the girl went to confession and the priest told her what that really meant. The ghost would come for her soul the next night. To avert the calamity, the priest told her to go alone

to the cemetery and lay the bone on the first grave she could see, and pray for the release of that soul. So, at midnight, the curiosa gathered all her courage, went to the cemetery and did as she was told. Since then she never doubted the word of her elders, or disputed the existence of ghosts.

Can you tell me how Hallowe'en is celebrated in Mexico?" I asked. "Of course," she said, "Hallowe'en, which in Mexico is called 'El dia de Muertos (day of the dead), is observed in many different ways. The poor classes fill baskets with food and collecting the family together they go to the graveyard a llorar el hueso, (to weep over the bone). The graves previously decorated with flowers, pictures of the departed one, and even favorite toys if he had died in infancy, are used as a table to spread the food so that the dead could take the grace from its many dishes. The food is generously washed with pulque, the native drink, and so, often such feasts end in fights or tragedy.

"The upper classes place platters of food upon altars as a food offering to the dead, while the family and visitors, kneeling before the altar, pray and sing for the release of the souls in purgatory. The graves are also decorated with freshly cut or artificial flowers, and cemeteries are visited as the American people visit the graves of the soldiers on Memorial day. On public stands or booths foodstuffs, candy and toys are sold representing bones, skeletons, and skulls. The Mexican children celebrate by eating chocolate tombs and candy skulls.

"La chismosa, (the gossip) is another story in which a ghost took part," said the old woman, as I expressed my desire

to hear another tale.

"In a far away pueblo," the old woman began, "lived once a young woman (muchacha) who was envious of every one. This young woman had a friend who was about to marry a good and handsome man. (You only find those in stories)" commented the old woman, winking an eye at us. "Well, the young woman tried as hard as she could to take the man away from her friend but she could not succeed. Furious because she had failed to vamp the man, the chismosa started an ugly rumor, that in reaching the ears of the good man ended their romance forever.

"The poor innocent girl suffered her dissatisfaction in silence, but soon died of a broken heart.

"The chismosa was happy. Renewing her efforts to catch the man, she soon succeeded in marrying her. But the wicked seldom escape punishment, said the old woman, and from then on the chismosa began to have bad dreams. Night after night the spirit of the dead woman would come to her in her dreams and reproached her in this way, 'Oh, chismosa, if it were not for your wicked tongue I could have had a boy who might have grown to be a great man. Instead, I am lonesome and wandering. Woe is me! Woe is me!' moaned the ghost, and pulling her hair in desperation, the spirit vanished in the air.

"The chismosa confessed her sin to the priest, and for some time she was not molested by the apparition. Then came Hallowe'en night. The wicked woman forgetting entirely that the spirit of her victim might come again, went to bed as usual. About midnight she felt a hand reaching for her mouth. Opening her eyes, she saw the ghost of her former friend standing before her. 'Oh, chismosa,' the spirit moaned, 'If it were not for your wicked tongue I could have had a

son who might have grown to be a great man. Woe is me, woe is me,
moaned the ghost, and reaching for the tongue ^{of the chismosa} of the ~~chismosa~~, the
spirit pulled it out of the mouth of the chismosa."

SK

11

Arthur J. Harris 709
San Francisco, Cal.

Went agricultural school,
San Francisco, Cal. took
English 1900. Remains in
agriculture since for 1907
1908. Went to sell the
confederate flag. Then worked
in California & Arizona
fields. Participated in Cotton
Strike. Member C. A. W. I. O.
Pastor religious.

Born in Mexico of young age.
He last year years schooling. He worked
at his father's ranch. Learning work
on a contract with the Southern Pacific
he came to California where he is
still working. He has some mechanical
ability and he plays a guitar and sings
a little. Also he does not have any
mechanical ability. He is married
and has a son attending public school.
His father had no schooling neither
did he have any special talents.
His financial condition has suffered
since the depression.
He came to this country as it offered
him a change in work.

Aug. 8, 1934.

F. V. --- A Mexican, born in Ensanada, Mexico, age about 40, crossed
into the United States from Mexico at Tia Juana with his parents as near
as he remembers at the age of fourteen or fifteen, states his early life
was more or less of a nomadic existence traveling with the seasons with
his parents who were fruit workers and followed the harvests from one
part of the country to another.
He states he managed to acquire an eighth grade education
during his youth. Is an expert meat cutter and worked around slaughter
houses most of his life untill 1931 and since that has been able to find
only part time work, expresses his opinion that one thing that is wrong
with the country at the present time is "that there are too many
foreigners here!"

San Francisco Calif.
Sept. 12, 1934

Report of Raymond Kurth
Re. Research

On September 10th I met
and called on Mr L. who
was born in Mexico and ~~was~~
~~as~~ a small child, the
family migrated to Oregon.

The father of this man was
Chinese and married a Mexican
and with the three children
all boys, operated a truck
farm, just outside of Portland.
where the children were given
a complete education.

In finishing High School
Mr L. became interested in
pugilism and in 1920, became
a fighter of considerable
prominence.

... ..
... ..

After his successful ring career, he started training young fighters for one of the large managers, here on the Coast. In the ring he acts as their seconds and is still semi active in exhibition work.

He is 38 years old and his use of language is very fine, considering the environment in which he has ~~traversed~~ ^{lived}.

Naturally the element into which his occupation took him, caused him to lead a moderately fast life, however outside of that class - he is a ~~very~~ ^{well behaved} gentleman at all times.

His dissipation leads in
a moderate sphere.

While he has no
permanent home, due to
the ~~nomadic~~ character of
his work, he generally
resides in second rate
hotels.

His religious views are
more or less agnostic, altho
he was raised in the
Catholic Church.

Respectfully
Raymond French

115

L421

James Masquez was
born at Jalisco Mexico and
came to California in
1925 with his parents.

He has been working
for the Southern Pacific
as a section hand →

Works 5 days a week
at \$2.70 a day. Out
of salary he has to
pay union dues, Hospital
and insurance held
out by the company.

Has a wife and 3

children the oldest
6 years of age and
in a very short time
there will be one more

He is not a naturalized

Citizen of the United States
and would like being
made to be back in
success Her parents went
back to Mexico 2 years
ago. Was laid off
work for a year and
was on charity, but
started back to work
2 weeks ago

12. 12. 12

Report Mexican
Theodore Grey

I am here about 40 years and I do not remember
~~nothing~~ about Mexico. My parents left Mex.
because up in the Sacramento valley they
said was peace and quietness. When I married
here we moved to our parents and we ~~thought~~
worked. About 10 years ago we moved to San
Francisco. I have two daughters, one is
married in Sonoma county and the other
is up in Stockton.

Myself I have worked here in the canneries
and lately I have been trying to make ~~myself~~
with my wife to earn enough for ourselves, but
for about 7 years or longer it was a kind of hard
to earn enough. O yes I have worked in
many places but so far earnings here in
town are of very short duration.
When we owed so much to the grocer and
for rent we applied for relief and we have been
getting help ever since. I have found it hard
to find work for one day and my wife found
no work any place. I am just about thinking
that the good times are over and that
I don't know just now how things
are or will be in the future.

over

The children we have here are from my neighbors
~~and~~ I always liked children that's why they
stay with me. The man across the street
is working on relief with me and we
come home ~~and~~ ^{happy} every day ~~when~~
~~we work together~~ I only had 2 children
as I said but we could not have any
more.

I am getting little help for my younger
children and when we get anything we send it up
as they are in the same fix as we are. He has no
work up there and things are not ~~so much~~
picking up. I have voted for Hoover but I think
him to be O.K. Well we all hope it will soon
be better and things going as before.

Report

Forest P. Tenney

Sept 27th 1934

Mexican -

This report deals with two boys raised as brothers, altho in reality ^{fact} are cousins. On calling I found the two boys in the act of moving their family belongings ⁽¹⁾ in a push cart - (which looked like a load of junk.) I found that they were moving because they had not been able to pay the rent for some time, as they had suffered a lay-off at the factory for several months and had been on the relief rolls, the factory had just called them back to work and that night was to be their first work ~~in~~ ^{since} ~~being~~ called back. They were moving to a house where they had been able to postall the land ~~and~~ for a month or so on promise of their working again. They had put in for work on the S.F.R.A. but had never heard from it. The boys, one twenty seven and the other nineteen years of age, both

have the same kind of work ~~at the same soap~~
factory - ~~that~~ ^{all} of press feeders, ^{at the same soap factory} also both work
the night shift. Press feeding in a soap factory
consists of running all night from one press to
another, a distance of about twenty feet, carrying
a tray of soap so hot that it has to be
juggled to keep from burning the hands, gloves
can not be worn as ^{they} ~~it~~ interferes with handling the
machine. The air is hot and dusty, and most of
the employees are Mexicans. This work pays
around three dollars and twenty cents per. shift of
eight hours. The younger boy still looks strong
and healthy, as he has not worked there long,
but the older one who has worked nearly ^{two}
years is worn and wrinkled, looking ^{older than} ~~far beyond~~
his years, & a tired look that seems to be
there to stay. ~~He~~ ^{he} says he does not rest well
unless he is working, as he is used to it now.

Their grandfather came here years ago as
one of the first settlers, when Los Angeles was
merely a village. He obtained a land grant of
some sort, right where the business district of
Los Angeles is now built. It consisted of forty or
(next page)

fifty acres, which he gladly sold to the white settlers at around fifty cents per. acre.

One of his sons - the father of the oldest boy, was a sand wagon driver, ~~hauling~~^h sand from the river beds into Los Angeles selling it to cement contractors ~~when~~^{when} L.A. was being built. He prospered and soon owned ten wagons and twenty teams of horses, then came the motor truck - and as it cut in on his business, various salesmen and friends tried to get him to buy one, but this he would not do. He fought the machine until his last dollar had gone ^{he} and died in poverty.

The machine age he fought, is now being fed by the boys he raised - ~~but~~ the younger boy is sending his entire pay check to a sister, who has five children (is a widow), while the older boys pay goes to support his mother, brother and self. The fate of these five children depend on the machine - will they fight or feed it?

11

2

born in Sonora Mexico; and that her mother was a full blood Yaqui Indian. She had 3 brothers and a younger sister. The family lived in a town called Nogales ~~that is~~ located near the border line of ~~Mexico~~ Mexico & New Mexico. The family made a living by making and selling sombreros and serapes. The father left the family a good many years before Mendy married the girl. I asked ~~Mendy~~ what kind of work the father did and he said ~~that~~ "He was no good, ~~he~~ he did no kind of work."

~~Mendy~~ and his wife have 3 children. The eldest, ~~is~~ a girl ^{eight} ~~5~~, the other 2 are boys, ~~6~~ ^{six} and ~~7~~ ^{five} ~~or 7~~. The girl was born in Nogales, the other 2 in the U.S.

~~Mendy~~ was born in Sinaloa ^{Mex}. His father was an agricultural ~~worker~~ worker and moved around quite a bit, ~~Counting Mendy~~ there were 3 children in the family.

Where Mendez was living with his folks.

111

³ ~~that was up until the time he became about~~
~~17~~¹⁵, he went to school every once in a while. He learned to read and write Spanish.

¹⁵ He left his family when he was about 15 years old and started out working around at the ranches on his own hook. He said that at that time most of the land was owned by rich ranch owners and that there were not very many small farmers. The poor Mexicans either worked as laborers on the ranches or earned their living by small hand trades such as making blankets, ^{and} serapes, making pottery etc. Most of the ranch laborers, according to him were not bound by debt to any particular ranch owner but as a whole moved around from ranch to ranch quite ~~a lot~~ frequently.

Quite a few of the Mexicans in the States in Northern Mexico go across the border into Arizona, New Mex., or Texas.



and ~~Col. B. J. S.~~⁴ to work for part of the year. ~~Mendes~~ went with a ~~group~~ group of other Mexicans into the Imperial Valley for the Melon harvests. He got a job on a road construction gang while he was there. He moved back and forth from Mexico to Cal. & Arizona. He said he did not like ranch work as well as he did construction work & other work of that type, and so did very little of the usual harvest and ~~agricultural~~ agricultural work.

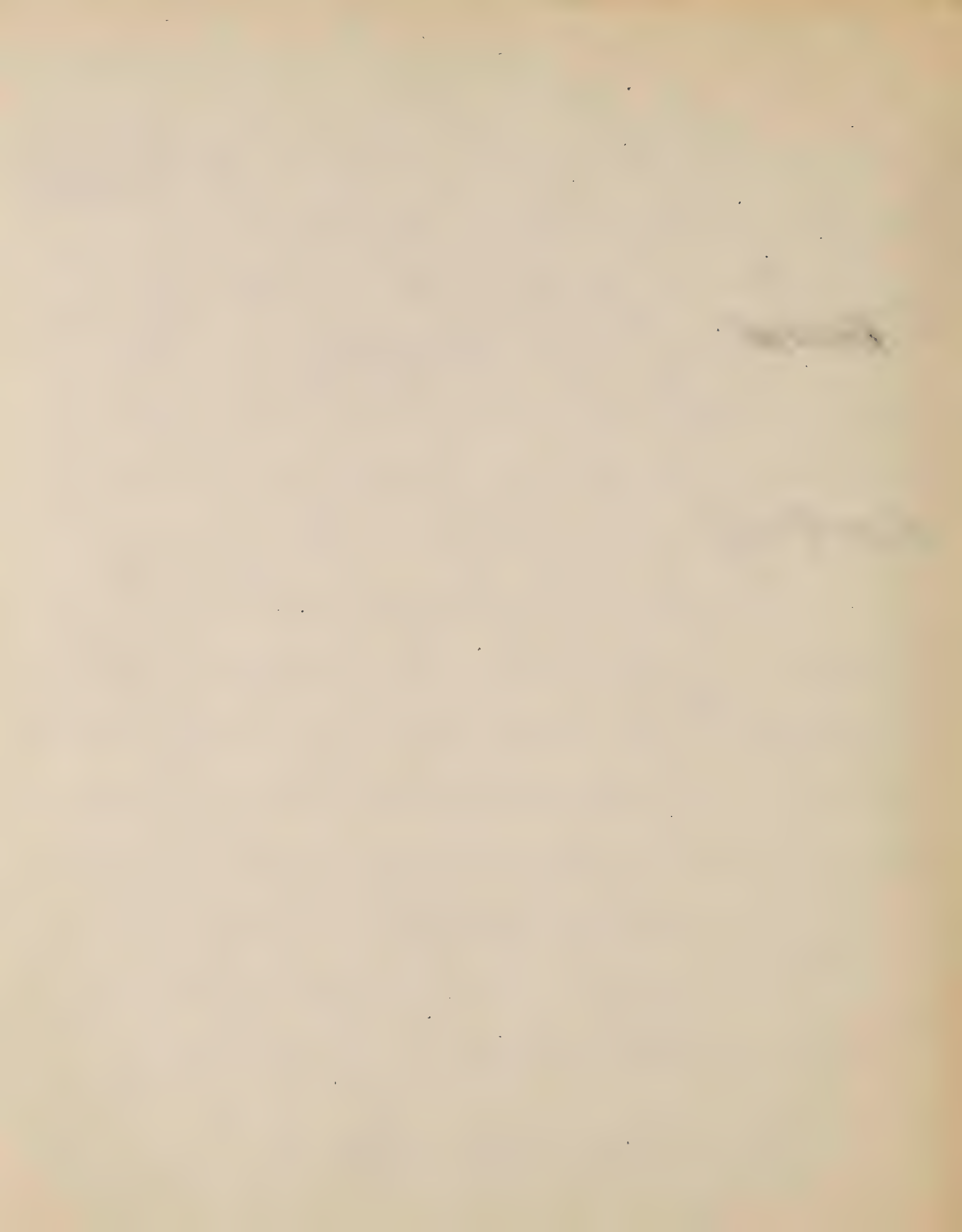
He married his ~~wife~~^{wife} ~~while~~ ^{eight} years ago. ~~His stay~~ in Mexico, ~~that was~~ ^{eight} years ago. After that he said he wanted to settle down and went to Los Angeles. He worked in a tire factory there for a couple of years, and ~~later he worked~~^{then} in the canneries & packinghouses in San Jose for a year or so. He has been living in Oakland for the last ~~4~~^{seven} years. For the last ~~3~~^{three} years he has been working

in jobs + pay that exists in the plant.
He also has the intelligence to lay down
plans on the books and on the ^{industrial} ~~industrial~~
workers as I have found quite a few do."

(7) He is reading the "Lucha Obrera"
& ~~the~~ ^{revolutionary} pamphlet written in
Spanish (At the present time). He is
becoming quite interested in the subject
~~which~~ brought up in them.

The family lives in a 4 or 5 room
house in Emeryville. The house is a frame
~~house~~ ^{and} somewhat dilapidated for lack
of paint. The front room has a nice
cannonport, a couple of rocking chairs,
a big round table and a ~~small~~
table that holds 4 chairs. ~~They have~~
They have rather ~~few~~ ^{few} ~~things~~
car.

It is conceivable that ~~the~~
committee is visiting with ~~the~~



Mexican friends Y.

I know that this picture shows once in a while as Mendez spoke of seeing a film called Viva Villas. ~~It is~~ a play based on a revolutionary uprising in Mexico. ~~Mendez~~ thought it was very fine.

Richard Wagner
No. 2
16 hours

Born in Mexico 24 yrs ago
This family came to Texas 1885
he was five years old.

He had a superior high school
education. Since leaving school
he has worked for a number of
public markets. At the present
time he has only part time work
He has no mechanical abilities
neither did his father show any.
The family came to Italy
to better their condition.

His father was a naval land.

Born in Italy 24 yrs ago. He had
about 8 yrs schooling, then worked for
his father in various markets. When
his father owned. At the age of 8,
he came down to Dallas, where
he went to work as a street
cleaner and remained at this work
until 1921. At which time he passed
away. He was a very good man.
He not mechanically inclined.

The family of present have 3
children. The children speak Italian
are two, boys had a good education.
They have a pending college.

The father came to this country
to better his position.

I was born in the province of Japan. I have four years schooling. Following this I went ^{ed} to Japan. In 1881 I came to the Canal Zone where I worked three years, then I returned to Japan. Following the bank's suspension to acquire a bank I came to California and accepted work as a laborer in the Washington office. I am presently unemployed.

There is a woman and a daughter. The son came to take after his father and expressed himself by saying that as long as he had work, he had no desire for anything else. The son is twenty years old and the daughter is sixteen. I am a native of Japan and have taken a course in accounting at the present time.

Forty thousand?

When I was in the depression the family were very poor. They also worked hard at home. The family have managed to save up to their savings and are still in about the same position financially.

For reasons for leaving the position was that they felt they could not stay there.

34

— place

Informant is a Mexican, whose parents came
at an early age for him to San Francisco.
He attended high school, and then went
to printing business. He tells us that
his earnings at present average \$60 a week,
and since the depression, unemployed, and
other problems are just something to read
about as far as he is concerned.
Asked if he felt no reason for the
future he said no. He has to
support his mother and to
putting his brother through college, and
he says he is occasionally pinched for
money but is open. He got
is as steady as a rock and he
hopes to eventually run his own
business.

Donald Tracy

904

Mexican, age 59, married, four children,
two boys, two girls, born old Mexico &
now American citizen.

Ca Been in this country since a very
young man, immigrating from Mexico,
no is possessed of a fluent tongue in his
foreign & English languages, but had
is no original talent to arouse human interest,
his schooling was limited & has been
compelled to struggle along in a moderate
way.

Married a woman of Portuguese-Mexican
ancestry & had four children, the eldest
son an auto mechanic, the younger
son doing odd jobs & distributing on
a paper route. One daughter is married
to a dyeing & cleaning man & one in high
school.

Having no trade, worked as laborer,
painter & watchman, while wife took
in sewing.

The family was thrifty & for many
years the combined savings of the family
accumulated until they were invested
in a humble home, yet unfaul for
in fact, & a little money was
invested in a farm that has since failed.

Depression reached havoc with this
family, but have gotten by with self-
restrictions & the last few years
have been lived in a sentimental
atmosphere devoid of prosperity.

903

Mexican, age 37, Married, one minor,
lives East Oakland.

His Mexican family all born in
California, live in cheap quarters in
lower end of Oakland, their lives carrying
nothing of essential importance.

Worked for a chemical company that
is now out of business & at the present
time has an old Ford truck & buys &
peddles vegetables. Drives out to nearby
truck gardens & buys up celled vegetables
& peddles them to people at a very low
price.

Speaks good English & has a minor
boy in public school. Is ambitious in
obtaining the needs of his family, but
there doesn't seem much chance to
elevate himself above the average
Mexican in this country.

(1)

~~This party~~ was born in Mexico City Mexico of Spanish parents who were merchants in Mexico. He was reared in pleasant environment. In 1907 ~~this party~~ was 17 years of age and his father sent him to a Military School in Spain where he studied until the year 1914. At this time this ~~indiv~~ ^{Indiv} ~~Indiv~~ began to mingle with a group of socialists ^{who} ~~that~~ were students in his class. He was taken on several occasions to meetings held by Pablo Iglesias who was leader of the socialist Party in Spain. He became greatly interested in Socialistic ideas. In 1915 he returned to Mexico where he joined the revolutionary movement with ~~He joined~~ Carranza's forces and obtained the rank of Captain. He realized it was impossible to establish a socialist regime in Mexico because of the unpopularity of the means to that end.

At the time of Carranza's death he headed a group of soldiers. Later on after many battles he joined forces with Calles. But as time went on, ~~this~~ ^{Saw} that the Calles movement was reactionary. Nevertheless he continued with the Calles government with the object in view ~~of~~ ^{an opportunity} until the year 1922. In that year he ran for governor of a state but his political view was opposed to Calles so he lost the election and all his wealth and found himself forced to leave Mexico. He still has the means of making a comfortable living ^{from} where he derives his ~~income~~ ^{livelihood}. He does not say. He is still hope full of his Socialistic ideas ^{and} he reads Socialist literature and believes that the establishing of Socialism in Mexico can be accomplished in the near future.

Informant is a young Mexican about 26 years old
 born in Guadalajara. He was brought to the country
 at a very early age, and for about 7 yrs resided
 in Texas. His father having died his mother said
 he came to San Francisco where he has
 remained since after attending grammar school
 he apprenticed himself to the trunk making business
 and after some 3 yrs became a journeyman
 trunk maker. However about 1920, his employer's
 business closed up, and he secured a
 job in a box factory where he has remained
 since. His mother has remarried, and
 he has a sister about 12 yrs old. His
 stepfather has disappeared and since the
 burden of the whole family now rests upon
 him, and employment being sporadic the
 burden has become quite acute.

Donald Tracy

Born in Mexico 24 yrs ago. He had
very little schooling and was enabled to
come to the country by signing up with
a railroad construction gang. ^{when he was twenty} For a
while he worked for the Southern Pacific
Co. in the Southern part of Calif.

Then finally he moved back in
California with the Calif. Cotton Mills
where he works on the machinery
as a helper. ~~He came to this country~~
~~when he was twenty~~

He is a fairly good mechanic
and wants to learn more about
the business.

Since 1907 he has managed to
keep working and has been able to
save considerable money, and save
it in Calif.

His father was a small time
businessman.

He came to the United States to better
his condition.

2018

4

I am in this city of San Francisco and
I wish to see better days for better and
happier feelings for every body. My boy certainly
went through hard times and don't know any
peculiarities. Glad to see Mr Roosevelt in office.
Glad to see a change in California. Yes I did vote
for Sinclair but don't understand as every body
I have voted against Merriam and yet the
voting machines have performed a miracle by
themselves.

Myron

12/9

1917

Born in Mexico 30 years
ago. He has had 10 years
schooling, and is still interested
in studying mathematics.
He is now married and has
at present he is laborer with
the Southern Pacific in Oakland.
He came to this country
with his family when he was
10 years of age.
Since 1929 he has been
working steadily.

Born in Mexico 25 years ago.
He worked for the Government a
small time after having been
4 years wharfing. He came to the
States hoping to improve his
position at the age of 20.

Since coming here he has worked
at various laboring jobs. Appointed
by the ^{is} Commissioner at the
P. & E. Co.

He is married and has two
children. He has no mechanical
or musical ability.

Born in Spain & lived in
the last few years in Spain and
now to the family of the
the present

Since January 1924 the
work of the family of the
and at present the family
the family of the family
the family of the family

In the family of the family
the family of the family

Since 1924 the family of the family
the family of the family

the family of the family
the family of the family

My father

1920

Early

Born in [unclear] 26 years ago

His father was the owner of a
small store and as he had an interest
in Calif. his family left [unclear]
to come here.

They settled in Oakland where
when he was four years old he
went to grade school and after
eight years he started to learn
the barber trade.

He has been working at the
same trade ever since.

He likes his work and does
some traveling in the city.

Since 1902 his [unclear]
has changed off occasionally but
although he is still working

W. J. ...

July

I have in Mexico 30 years ago
 He had several years of schooling and then
 worked as a laborer, mostly in the
 On the Southern Pacific. He was looking
 for workmen to accept a job in the
 and then came to the southern part of the
 state.

He worked here several years and then
 came to Oakland, where he is still
 working as a laborer for the same company.

He is married and has three children.
 His oldest son is now in the army
 owing to the hard work he has done he
 has had no time for companying his wife.
 The two youngest children

have up to the present time and
 business, but because of the
 it is hard for him to find time to
 more. He has a wife and three
 place to bring up his children. He has
 all with him. One of his children is a
 (7)

Mexican Jalisco

Anality 243

Born in Jalisco, Mexico

Twenty-five years ago. He came to California

when he was 10 years old.

He attended school for 10 years. His first work was as a water boy in Texas. He came to California in 1927 and has been working ever since that time with the Ray Chevrolet Co as a truck driver.

He is married and has one child. He has had no time to study, but he likes mechanics. But as his knowledge of English is quite limited, he cannot tell his mind.

He likes this country for the chance than he has.

FIELD CONTINUITY
MEXICAN POPULATION
SAN DIEGO PROJECT
SUBJECT NUMBER _____

J. Isaac Aceves

March 23, 1937

Research : _____

Copy : _____

Number of words : 1468

JULIAN PIÑA

We found Julian Piña in his very humble room on Tenth Avenue, San Diego, Calif., where he lives as a bachelor of very scarce means, ~~while he~~ seeks employment as a dishwasher in one of the downtown restaurants, where he was employed for some time last year. His furniture is composed of a cot, two chairs, a trunk, and an electric stove of two burners ~~which he uses for cooking his own meals.~~ A Mexican family rents that room to him for five dollars a month, plus one dollar extra for the use of the electric current.

Piña dresses poorly but neatly, his clothes showing that he bought them at a sale, for the price and not for looks or quality. For street wear he has two suits which were hanging in a closet ~~together~~ with a cheap overcoat and a few neckties. On top of his trunk a few paper-bound Spanish books and lots of Mexican papers were piled up near the ~~scant~~ kitchen and tableware he had been using. We had made an appointment ~~with him~~ and he was courteous to ~~us~~ ^{me} ~~and~~ ^{I started some} ~~very~~ ^{us,} and very talkative.

"I arrived to the United States seven years ago, coming through Nogales, Ariz., and ~~bound for~~ ^{to} Los Angeles, Calif., where a distant relative of mine was established with his family. They had been in this country for several years then, and the head of the family had steady work with the Gas Company. They were now laying an underground pipe system, and by my relative's recommendation I was given work digging ditches for this gas line.

" Over in Mexico I had been working first as a farm-hand, and then I had set up a little grocery store at Mascotas, Jalisco, where I was born 42 years ago. My father was a sort of "tradesman"; he had an express wagon which he would load with odd merchandise from our town, and going from one place to the other, he traded his goods for other which he would sell in the next town

JULIAN PINA
 1. Name Address
 JULIAN PINA
 1000 10th Street
 Los Angeles, Calif.
 Date of birth: 1903

JULIAN PINA

We found Julian Pina in his very humble room on 10th Avenue, San Diego, Calif., where he lives as a bachelor of very scarce means. He seeks employment as a dishwasher in one of the downtown restaurants, where he was employed for some time last year. His furniture is composed of a cot, two chairs, a trunk, and an electric stove of two burners which he uses for cooking his own meals. A Mexican family rents that room to him for five dollars a month, plus one dollar extra for the use of the electric supply. Pina dresses poorly but neatly, his clothes showing that he bought them at a sale, for the price and not for looks or quality. For street wear he has two suits which were hanging in a closet together with a cheap overcoat and a few neckties. On top of his trunk a few paper-bound Spanish books and lots of Mexican papers were piled up near the west kitchen and refrigerator. He had been using. We had made an appointment with him and he was courteous to us, and very talkative.

"I arrived to the United States seven years ago, coming through Nogales, Ariz., and bound for Los Angeles, Calif., where a distant relative of mine was established with his family. They had been in this country for several years then, and the head of the family had started work with the Gas Company. They were now laying an underground pipe system, and by my relative's recommendation I was given work digging ditches for this gas line.

"Over in Mexico I had been working first as a farm-hand, and then I had set up a little grocery store at Masagosa, Jalisco, where I was born 45 years ago. My father was a sort of "traderman"; he had an express wagon which he would load with odd merchandise from our town, and take from one place to the other, he traded his goods for other which he would sell in the next town.

and with the profits he bought cattle and different products, making his mercantile expeditions two or three times a year, each lasting a few months^h.

What merchandise he was unable to sell during his trip, he passed on to me for disposal in my store.

"I, too, embarked on an industrial business in a very reduced scale; I established a pottery at Mascota on which I spent a very small sum of money, the plant having been built in our back yard; I made a partner of an old and experienced potter, advanced him foodstuffs, tools, raw materials, and a little cash, and when we sold our ware we split the profit fifty-fifty. I had the idea that I was an accomplished businessman, but when twelve years ago, my father passed away, and my mother followed him a year later, I realized that both of them had been helping me to handle my enterprise, and lacking their cooperation, I soon failed.

"My spirit of adventure awoke, and I began to think of coming to the United States and trying my luck. Right in my town, and undecided as yet for the trip I started some other enterprises into which I invested the small amount of money left to me by my parents, and again I failed. Then I made up my mind to come over to California, leaving in Mexico my two sisters and my brother, who at that time formed my immediate family. And I can't say that the political strife drove me out of my country, because at Mascota we barely felt its damages; I came to the United States obeying a desire for a change for the best.

"When the ditch-digging job was finished at Los Angeles, I sought work in other lines; I worked for several months for a contractor of cement work; went to pick fruit at Fresno, and making my relatives' home my living quarters at Los Angeles, I was employed during several seasons at the fruit orchards of the Los Angeles district, pruning the trees, irrigating the orchards and picking peaches during the crops. Then I got a dishwashing job in one of the big restaurants of Hollywood.

and with the profits he bought cattle and different products, making his own
cattle expeditions two or three times a year, each lasting a few months.
That year because he was unable to sell during his trip, he passed on to me
for disposal in my store. This is the way I came to have the store.
I, too, worked on an industrial business in a very different way.
obtained a factory at Mascota on which I spent a very small sum of money,
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brother, who at that time formed an insurance family. And I can't say that
the political strife drove me out of my country, because at Mascota we really
felt its danger; I came to the United States seeking a better life for a change
for the best. I tried to work in various ways, but I failed again and again.
When the ditch-digging job was finished at Los Angeles, I went with
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went to the first at Fresno, and making my relatives' home by living there.
then at Los Angeles, I was employed during several seasons at the same place.
wards of the Los Angeles district, during the time, finishing the work and
and picking up the pieces during the crisis. Then I got a dishwashing job in one of
the big restaurants of Hollywood.

The work was hard and tiresome, with my ⁿhands always submerged in hot water, down in the basement; but once the day was over, I was free of worries and able to go to a show or to a dance hall. I was satisfied and content.

"I have been as thrifty as possible. When I arrived to Los Angeles seven years ago, I had with me only twenty dollars; when back in 1935 I came to San Diego seeking employment within the Exposition grounds, I brought almost one hundred dollars, and these, after I had sent various amounts to my folks in the old country. I had to wait three weeks before they gave me a job as dishwasher in one of the main cafes, and I waited patiently for I could count upon the savings I had with me. In a matter of a few days I was promoted to a kitchen helper, my duties being to pare all the vegetables, mainly potatoes, the cook wanted. Had I been able to speak English I could easily have had a job as waiter; the boss liked me.

"On my days off I would go across the line into Tijuana where I made many acquaintances. I do not drink, and living as modestly as I do now, I succeeded in saving about two hundred dollars from my wages. During one of my visits to Tijuana, I met ^{a man} who owned what he called a ranch, a dilapidated shack and forty acres of land. He, too, was from Jalisco, Mex., and talked of selling his property and going back home. I told him I could buy it if the price was reasonable; he wanted three hundred dollars for it and I offered him my entire capital, two hundred. I bought the ranch. Then I wrote to my brother telling him to sell a piece of property I had in our town, and with the product to come to Tijuana. He made the trip and brought with him one of our nephews, a boy of seventeen; they are now taking care of my ranch across the line; I am giving them a little money for their expenses. This year they planted corn and beans, and are going to build a chicken coop.

"Six months ago I went to Los Angeles and worked for a while, but as

The work was hard and tiresome, with my hands always submerged in hot water, even in the basement; but once the day was over, I was free of worries and able to go to a show or to a dance hall. I was satisfied and content.

"I have been as thrifty as possible. When I arrived in Los Angeles seven years ago, I had with me only twenty dollars; when I came back in 1908 I came to San Diego seeking employment within the excavation grounds. I brought with me one hundred dollars, and these, after I had sent various amounts to my folks in the old country. I had to wait three weeks before they gave me a job as dishwasher in one of the main cities, and I waited patiently for I could count upon the savings I had with me. In a matter of a few days I was promoted to a kitchen helper, my duties being to wash all the vegetables, mainly potatoes, the cook wanted. And I began to look for a house to live in. I had a job as waiter; the boss liked me.

"On my days off I would go across the line into Tijuana where I made many acquaintances. I do not drink, and living as modestly as I do now, I succeeded in saving about two hundred dollars from my wages. During one of my visits to Tijuana, I met a man who he called a truck; a dilapidated one and forty acres of land. He, too, was from Tijuana, Mex., and talked of selling his property and going back home. I told him I could buy it at the price was reasonable; he wanted three hundred dollars for it and I offered him an entire capital, two hundred. I bought the ranch. Then I wrote to my brother telling him to sell a piece of property I had in our town, and with the proceeds to come to Tijuana. He made the trip and brought with him one of our nephews, a boy of seventeen; they are now taking care of my ranch across the line; I am giving them a little money for their expenses. This year they planted corn and beans, and are going to raise a chicken coop.

"Six months ago I went to Los Angeles and stayed for a while, but as

I wanted to be near my brother, I came back to San Diego looking for another job. Up to now I have been unable to find it, but every day I go around the restaurants downtown, and expect to be washing dishes again one of these days. I also have in mind the project of setting up a business of my own, a small restaurant where genuine Mexican meals will be served; I expect to have the cooperation and financial backing of a Mexican woman living now in National City. In the meantime I am going to enroll in one of the English classes given in the public schools so that I may overcome the great handicap that the ignorance of the language means to any foreigner here.

"Apply for a job with the W. P. A. ? I don't think I ever will do it, because then I would not be able to go back and forth to Tijuana where I intended to settle down with some of my relatives sooner or later. My ambition is to bring my family closer to me, and join them in the near future. You know I am single and don't expect to ever get married; so to have a home I must rely upon my brother and sisters, one of whom is a widow with several children. She needs my protection and I intend to give it to her as the head of the family. ~~that I am.~~

"I have thought more than once of applying for American citizenship. I like this country, its institutions and its people; but I don't want to lose my Mexican citizenship. It is a matter of patriotism as well as self-respect, at least that is the way I feel about it. Besides that, we are so close to Mexico that we may go the minute the Americans no longer want us around here. They say that Mexico is rapidly progressing now; who can tell but that we will take an active part in the new life of my country; we are learning here the real meaning of democracy.

I wanted to be near my brother, I came back to San Francisco looking for another job. Up to now I have been unable to find it, but every day I go around the restaurants downtown, and expect to be washing dishes again one of these days. I also have in mind the project of setting up a business of my own, a small restaurant where genuine Mexican meals will be served. I expect to have the cooperation and financial backing of a Mexican woman living now in National City. In the meantime I am going to enroll in one of the English classes given in the public schools so that I may overcome the great handicap that the ignorance of the language means to any foreigner here.

"Apply for a job with the W.P.A.?" I don't think I ever will do so, because then I would not be able to go back and forth to El Paso where I intend to settle down with some of my relatives sooner or later. My ambition is to bring my family closer to me, and join them in the near future. You know I am single and don't expect to ever get married; so to have a home I must rely upon my brother and sisters, one of whom is a widow with several children. She needs my protection and I intend to give it to her as the head of the family, that is my plan.

"I have thought more than once of applying for American citizenship. I like this country, its institutions and its people; but I don't want to lose my Mexican citizenship. It is a matter of patriotism as well as self-respect, at least that is the way I feel about it. Besides that, we are so close to Mexico that we may go the minute the Americans no longer want us around here. They say that Mexico is rapidly progressing now; who can tell but that we will have an active part in the new life of my country; we are learning more the real meaning of democracy.

For our own peace, we are going to stay here.

And even if I want to go back.

FIELD CONTINUITY
MEXICAN POPULATION
SAN DIEGO PROJECT
SUBJECT NUMBER _____

J. Isaac Aceves
Research _____
Copy : _____

March 22, 1937

Number of words : 1648

RAFAEL VARELA

"I was born the year of 1903 at Huepac, a little town in the State of Sonora, Mex. My parents were poor peasants of ~~the class~~ commonly known ~~as~~ peons. My father worked on the ranches, and my mother kept house for us; neither of them ever went to school, and lived the peaceful existence of the ignorant people. They sent ^{me} to school at Magdalena, a good-sized town in Sonora, my padrino (godfather), a former foreman in one of the ranches where my father worked, taking care of my financial support, ^{from that time} since I was eight years old until I finished the elementary course four years later.

"When I quit school, my godfather sent me back to Huepac to join my parents. Although I was one of the very few town's people ~~who was~~ able to read and write, there was nothing I could do but go ~~out~~ into the back country and work as a common laborer for 31 cents a day. But I was somebody at home after a ten-hour day on the fields, because almost every evening I was requested to read or write letters for our neighbors, winning in that way their respect and a few extra copper coins they would give as a humble ^{recompensation} ~~retribution~~ for my services. My parents were very proud of me.

^{to have gotten some good out of it}
"My State was then a chaos of revolution. You know that since 1911 Sonora contributed a great number of men to the rebel army, and since the time I left the school there was a marked political unrest and actual fighting everywhere in the

Page 10, 1907

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1. 1907

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Number of words: 100

1. 1907

"I was born the year of 1903 at Huepac, a little town in the state of Sonora, Mex. My parents were poor peasants of the state commonly known as Sonora. My father worked on the ranches, and my mother kept house for me; neither of them ever went to school, and lived the peaceful existence of the ignorant people. They sent me to school at a good-sized town in Sonora, my father (working) a former teacher in one of the ranches where my father worked, taking care of my financial support, since I was eight years old until I finished the elementary course four years later.

"When I quit school, my father sent me back to Huepac to join my parents. Although I was one of the very few town's people who was able to read and write, there was nothing I could do but go into the land country and work as a common laborer for 31 cents a day. But I was not happy at home after a few days on the field, because almost every evening I was requested to read or write letters for our neighbors, winning in that way their respect and a few extra copper coins they would give as small remuneration for my services. My parents were very proud of me.

"My State was then a chaos of revolution. You know that since 1911 Sonora contributed a great number of men to the rebel army, and since the time I left the school I was a rebel political worker and started fighting everywhere in the

northern section of Mexico. Huepac, my town, couldn't be spared, and in spite of the strong protests of my father and the suffering of my mother, I had to join the rebel army fighting for the emancipation of the peons. I was sixteen years old then, and full of enthusiasm, ambition and courage, but after a few months of military service, I quit the army, heeding my mother's earnest pleas, and decided to come into the United States, ~~as~~ I knew that to remain in Mexico after deserting any of the parties in war, would mean ~~a~~ severe punishment, ^{the} even death penalty, for me.

"With the help of an employee of the Mexican consulate, who arranged for me the necessary papers for my immigration, I crossed the boundary line at Nogales, Ariz., and proceeded first to Phoenix, and then to Los Angeles, Calif. Confidentially, I am going to tell you something that ^phappened to me just a few days after my arrival to Los Angeles. One day I called at one of the employment agencies on ~~Main St.~~, and while waiting for the assignment of a job, I got into an argument with another Mexican who insulted and provoked me, and finally attacked me with a knife. In defense of my life I killed him with his own weapon, was arrested, tried and given five years in San Quentin.

"I can say that I took my first lesson in the English language in the Los Angeles jail, and practiced it during my almost four years of imprisonment in the Penitentiary. I seem to have gotten ~~some~~ some good out of my misfortune; which was ~~my~~ learning of the English language and the training I received in the most severe discipline a man can endure. Luckily for me, my parents realized that I was not at fault and that my reputation had not been ruined. They suffered for my cause,

northern region of Mexico, my town, couldn't be spared,
and in spite of the strong protests of my father and the other
people of my mother, I had to join the rebel army fighting for the

emancipation of the people. I was sixteen years old then, and

full of enthusiasm, ambition and courage, but after a few months

of military service, I gained some experience, and I was

promoted to the rank of sergeant. I was then assigned to

the task of leading a detachment of soldiers to

the town of San Juan, where I was to

With the help of an employee of the Mexican consulate, who

arranged for me the necessary papers for my immigration, I cross-

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after my arrival to Los Angeles. One day I called at one of

the largest agencies of the city, and while waiting for the

assignment of a job, I got into an argument with another Mex-

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"I can say that I took my first lesson in the English

language in the San Quentin Penitentiary, and I learned it

almost four years of imprisonment in the Penitentiary. I seem

to have gotten some good out of my misfortune, which was my

learning of the English language and the meaning of justice.

In the past, I have been a very selfish person, but now

my former selfishness has been replaced by a sense of duty

and a desire to help my fellow men.

but they sent word to me through my godfather (they were not allowed to enter this country because they were not able to read and write) comforting me and stating that they were not ashamed of their son. ~~and they sent me money~~

"Finally, when my time was up, I was freed from the Peni^l, on parole and with almost fifty dollars in my pocket, my savings during my stay in prison while working in the shops. I'll tell you most of my mates in San Quentin were sore at the police, judges and jurors who sent them there, and then complained of everything within the walls. I felt different, for I know I had a fair deal during my trial and imprisonment. I had deserted the Army in Mexico, and the only thing I feared was my deportation which they would have ordered had I not been legally immigrated. Instead, I was set free with only the obligation to report from time to time to the sheriff's office wherever I would go. And now I was able to speak English enough to understand and be understood. ~~and I was able to find work~~

"When I was leaving the Peni, the man in the office asked me where I intended to go, and I told him to San Diego, the closest large town on the boundary line; I wanted to be as near to Mexico as possible, but in American territory; he fixed my papers accordingly, and here I have lived since then. I have tried almost any job not requiring special training, as the canneries and street paving; for a few months worked in one big lumber yard, in the shipping department; I have cleaned the trash and weeds in city lots, and sometimes I have run errands for Mexican families who have given me my meals and a place to rest for the night."

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to Mexico as possible, but in American territory; he fixed my
papers accordingly, and here I have lived since then. I have
worked and street paving, for a few months worked in one big
mine and now I am working in a small mine.

"My parents and I have been corresponding by mail; I write them long letters and they answer with a few lines telling me they are all right. Sometimes I mail them money which they are glad to receive "as a blessing", my mother says, because things have not changed much in Huepac, and she and my old man are growing old. They have a school now in my town, and the teacher takes care of writing their letters to me. God bless her! I have sent her some of the books I read and think she will enjoy. If I ever go back home I'll take her some pretty things as a token of my appreciation. The last time my mother was sick in bed, that kind teacher nursed her as if she were some relation to us.

"Ten years ago I married a Mexican girl born and raised in the neighboring town of Encinitas. I met her when I was working for a wealthy American rancher, a Colonel who has a big ranch near there. I was boarding with her family for three dollars a week, and fell in love with Maria, and she accepted me; she was seventeen years old. With her mother's consent we made several trips to San Diego, applied for our marriage license, bought a few clothes for the women folks, and were married in the Catholic church. Six months later my mother-in-law died, and Maria and I came to live in San Diego where I had better chances for finding work.

"My wife was reluctant to leave the small bungalow in which she had spent her childhood, but my reason for moving to San Diego was more important than her sentimental idea of staying in Encinitas, so here we have been for nine years. We have rented Maria's home for \$3 a month, with which money we pay the taxes, repairs that the house needs from time to time, and the balance

3333 2000

My wife was reluctant to leave the small bungalow in which she had spent her childhood, but my reason for moving to San Diego was more important than her sentimental idea of staying in the old home. I had to go. I had to go to the new world, to the new life, to the new hope. I had to go to the new world, to the new life, to the new hope. I had to go to the new world, to the new life, to the new hope.

they will die with
we use for my wife's clothing. We haven't any children although we would welcome them; that's something I deeply regret because I would like to give grandchildren to my parents, and I feel sort/^{of ashamed} to go back to Huepac with only my wife.

"She too, has been working, as housemaid for well-to-do families; at the beginning I objected to her going to work, but she said that with me working almost every day, she felt lonesome at home. When she leaves home every morning she has our two rooms done, and my lunch already packed. When we return from our jobs she cooks the evening meal, and we enjoy it after a day's hard work. Of course I help her around the house, but she is always willing to do the housekeeping herself. She speaks good English and has lady-like manners which have helped to improve mine. If we ever sell our Encinitas home and I start a business of my own, I will amount to somebody among my fellow workers.

"No. Strange as it may appear to you, I do not dream of going back to Mexico. In the first place, I am satisfied with my actual condition; then, I fear that Maria is going to ^{find} my old folks too ignorant and too humble. I fear, also, that she will never be content with what I can offer her in Huepac, the small farmers' town. She, having been born here, has become used to everything she can get in this country, and she would not like living where we cook on wood-burning stoves, have no electric light, and have never had a bath tub.

"There is something which darkens my life, otherwise happy; that I am not doing for my old folks what they deserve; that

we use for my wife's clothing. We haven't any children although we would welcome them; that's something I don't want to do. I would like to give money to my parents, and I feel sort of to go back to Huepac with only my wife.

"She too, has been working, as housemaid for well-to-do families; as the following I enjoyed to get some to eat, and she said that with the working class, very few, this is because she has the money now they wanted the two and two cents more, and I don't think so. When we were in our own house, and looking the evening meal, and we enjoy it with a day's work. Of course I will not around the house, but it is always willing to do the housework myself. And when I was young and had like money, when we tried to become rich, it was very well and I think I have a business of my own, I will amount to somebody among my fellow workers.

"No. I think as it may be, I am not of being that a sense. In the first place, I am not a very actual communist; that, I think that is in order to the old folks too ignorant and too humble. I don't think that we will never be rich, and I am not in Huepac, the small, town, town. She, having been born here, has become used to everything she can get in this country, and she would not like living where we cook on wood-burning stoves, have no electric light, and have never had a bath tub.

"There is something which makes me like, otherwise I don't I am not doing for the old folks that they deserve that

they will die without having seen me again. I wish I could find a way to comfort them and at the same time to have my wife satisfied. But this is very hard to accomplish. We are now living in the American style, in a three-room bungalow; our meals are American, and everything surrounding us is American. Maria will not give up her actual comfort, and even I do not feel very willingly to dispense with mine. I am not the same man who came to this country 17 years ago; whether for good or evil I am a changed man.".. The few of the refugees, diplomatic and educated classes are not recorded as a group, but it is very likely that there are not more than a few hundreds of these combined groups, or of the native-born Mexicans of several generations standing. Likewise the descendants of Anglo-Americans living in the United States who have returned and settled in Mexico are not recorded as a group, but they are not in the majority, and are not in any great numbers and largely are admixed with the Anglo-American stock. This latter group is not counted as Mexican in the census, however, but any that could be classed as "white" were so counted.

There are two outstanding settlements of people who claim Mexican ancestry. One of these is Old Town, on the north side of the city, about three miles from the center of population. The other is the Logan Heights-Neighborhood House District.

Neighborhood House, an institution which was founded in Chicago, has in 1936, five hundred families in the district. It has been a social center for the neighborhood since its founding. Information derived from the records of this center indicates that the population of the district is about 10,000, and that the population of

they will die without having seen me again. I wish I could find a way to comfort them and at the same time to have my wife satisfied. But this is very hard to accomplish. We are now living in the American style, in a three-room bungalow; our meals are American, and everything surrounding us is American. Maria will not give up her actual comfort, and even I do not feel very willing to dispense with mine. I am not the same man who came to this country 17 years ago; whether for good or evil I am a changed man."

FIELD CONTINUITY
Minority Survey: Mexicans
New Guide
San Diego Project
No.

Marion Towle
Research: _____
Copy _____

Received _____
No. of words 1800
Approx.

MEXICAN POPULATION OF SAN DIEGO

Location and Size of Local Colony: The Mexican population of San Diego county according to the Fifteenth Census returns in 1930, was 15,996. Of these the great majority were of the working-class, that is unskilled immigrants of recent arrival. The few of the refugees, diplomatic and educated classes are not recorded as a group, but it is very likely that there are not more than a few hundreds of these combined groups, or of the native-born Mexicans of several generations standing. Likewise the descendants of aristocratic Spanish families (those who were political and social leaders in the early days of the Southwest), are to be found in very small numbers and largely are admixed with the Anglo-American stock. This latter group is not counted as Mexican in the census, however, but any that could be classed as "white" were so counted.

There are two outstanding settlements of people who claim Mexican ancestry. One of these is Old Town, on the northern side of the city, about three miles from the center of population. The other is the Logan Heights-Neighborhood House District.

Neighborhood House, an institution much like Hull House in Chicago, has in 1936, five hundred families on its files. The House is a social center for the neighborhood as well as a social service agency. Information derived from the director of this center therefore should give a representative picture of the entire neighborhood. It is probably that about half of the Mexican population of

the entire city resides in this district.

The main settlement of the native Mexicans is in Old Town, where, according to the estimate of the principal grocer there, there are about seventeen hundred Mexicans, either mainly Indian in racial composition or mainly European, through long periods of intermixture. The social life there centers around a Friday even dance held in the schoolhouse, which is conducted in a thoroughly American fashion. The children disdain to speak Spanish or to be different from the average American boy or girl in the larger community to the south.

Places of Origin: From a sampling of the files at Neighborhood House it appears that most of the Mexicans come from Lower California, Jalisco, Chihuahua, and Sinaloa. There appears to be a larger number from Lower California than from the others. This is not true of Mexicans throughout the state, as Guanajuato, Jalisco, have first places as states of origin. Towns in Lower California from which several families were known to have come were, Loretto, Ensenada, La Paz, and San Jose del Gabo.

Places Lived Before Coming to United States: There are no figures to show how many entered California through other states in the southwest, but from biographical material it would seem that quite a large number came into Texas first, and hearing of the advantages offered by California move here after perhaps years of living or wandering in other States. A few here in San Diego lived as far east as New York.

Length of Time in U.S.: A little more than half of all Mexicans in the city of San Diego in 1930, were native born, and a little less than half were foreign-born. Of the foreign-born, the largest numbers

came in the decades from 1901-1910, and from 1915 - 1930. This does not include those who came in large numbers illegally over the border. Some authorities have estimated on the basis of census figures that as many have entered illegally as have come legally. Since 1930, because of the economic depression and the difficulty of securing relief because of non-citizenship status, immigration has dropped off markedly throughout the country and in San Diego. In 1931 for the first time, the emigration of Mexicans exceeded the immigration, and ever since that year the number of departures has been anywhere from six to eighteen times the number of admissions. According to the director of Neighborhood House, those under nineteen years of age of age were born here, for the most part, and those over 19 or 20 were born in Mexico.

Organizations: There are two agricultural workers' unions in San Diego County. One meets in the Neighborhood House District and is affiliated to the Mexican Federation of Labor, and one is independent and has several locals, usually about seven, and meets in San Ysidro near the Mexican border. Both of these unions have succeeded in raising the wage scale two or more times. Membership is almost exclusively Mexican in both.

In Old Town there is a Spanish American Alliance, a secret society for Spanish-speaking people, with mutual aid and life insurance benefits. Another lodge, the Caballeros de la Gran Tenoxtitlan, (Knights of the Great Tenoxtitlan), of similar aim, operates in San Diego, but its activities are very limited, and its life is highly precarious. Membership in both societies is mainly Mexican.

Native Newspapers in the Vernacular: Most of the English speaking young Mexicans read the American daily papers, but the Los Angeles paper published in Spanish, La Opinion, seems to be the most widely read of the non-English papers. There are none published in San Diego County at present although several years ago one was published here and widely read.

There are three papers issued in Mexico City to which those subscribe who can afford to do so, and these are the Excelsior, El Universal, and El Nacional. Another paper with a circulation here of 200 is El Machete, organ of the Communist party of Mexico, and one of the favorite magazines is Caras y Caretas, published in Habana, Cuba.

Feasts and Holidays: The Mexican people in San Diego of all classes are mainly Roman Catholic, and their culture shows a considerable amount of infiltration of Catholic elements. There is a saint for every situation and person. Despite the pressure of the Anglo-American social milieu, they maintain the custom of celebrating certain Mexican holidays. One is the anniversary of their independence from Spain on the 16th of September, and the other is to commemorate the battle between the French and the Mexican armies at Puebla on the 5th of May in 1862, analogous to our Fourth of July, marking the end of Mexico's domination by Europe.

Catholic holidays and festivals are observed by most of the working class and recent emigrants. The middle classes, who as a rule are most particular in the observance of religious customs are here becoming very lax in their celebrations. There is a lessening interest in their observance of the 16th of September which festival is usually held at Balboa Park with patriotic speeches and a program with concert and dances.

These people in their homes, however, are still as hospitable as they are reputed to be, and on special occasions such as weddings and birthdays, or baptisms, they treat their guests with home-made delicacies, tamales, enchiladas, frijoles, albondigas, and tacos, all national dishes. They also present exhibition folk-dances at these private gatherings, one of the most famous of which is El Jarabe Tapatio.

Folk-tales and Myths: There is a marked difference between the middle and working class families regarding the folk-tales kept alive within the family or group. The former insist that the most popular stories are traditional European legends such as Snow White, Hansel and Gretel, Cinderella, and Alibaba and the Forty Thieves.

These are presented with numerous variations of course, but follow the pattern in every respect. The workers' children, while they hear these stories in school and at Neighborhood House, are more intrigued by the "devil" tales told them by their Indian or mestizo mothers. But the children are not alone in their belief in primitive sorcery and various superstitions, as may be seen by the following story.

The director of Neighborhood House invited several of the mothers to her mountain cabin for a week-end trip, but one of them, who had a young baby, refused to go, giving various reasons. She was finally prevailed upon, after being promised a comfortable carriage for her baby to sleep in, and upon their return to San Diego the director discovered the reason for her earlier unwillingness.

It seems that there is a story told among the Mexicans that if a young mother does not watch all night, a snake will come, remove the milk from her breasts, leaving them dry, and put his tail in the baby's mouth to fool it into believing it has been fed. When the baby loses weight, grows sickly and seems about to die, the mother usually stays awake all night worrying, and thus discovers the cause of the trouble.

This woman believed that snakes were numerous in the mountains, as she had been told so, and had therefore refused to go. This superstition is similar to the Asiatic and ancient Babylonian legends of Lilith.

Another very old religious superstition held by the Mexicans is that when a saint is called upon to aid his or her protege, and fails to do so, the image or picture of the saint is turned up-side-down, and if that does not bring the required results, it is turned to the wall. This has a distinct relationship to certain African, European, Asiatic and Mayan customs, and even present day Cambodian.

Occupations: Most of the lower class Mexicans were farm laborers before coming to this country, and in fact were practically slaves on the large haciendas of the wealthy land owners. Some worked in the mines, but in the United States the majority remain farm laborers, or as they are called in California, migratory agricultural workers.

In San Diego, however, the proportion engaged in this industry is not so large. The greatest number of male wage-earners are day laborers, many of them employed on W.P.A. projects. Many of them are skilled in cement work and so are in demand in this particular field. They were formerly employed by the Gas Company, but have been laid off and replaced largely by white men.

Perhaps a fourth of the male wage-earners may be classed as semi-skilled workers, such as gardeners, pantrymen, truck-drivers, firemen, janitors, cobblers and cannery workers. Less than a fourth are skilled workers, carpenters, plasterers, meat cutters, blacksmiths and cooks, while a few are shopkeepers, ship owners, salesmen, agents and clerks. The middle or higher class, who are much in the minority, are students, merchants, professionals or diplomats.

Celebrities: During the last decade many wellknown Mexicans have visited San Diego and a few of them have established their residences here. Among these may be mentioned three former presidents of Mexico, General Pascual Ortiz Rubio, who owns a beautiful home in San Diego; General A.L.Rodriguez; and General P.E.Calles, an outstanding figure in Mexican politics until recently, when he has made San Diego his refuge since his enforced exile from his own country.

Two noted authors, Nemesio Garcia Naranjo, and Querido Moheno, have visited San Diego and given lectures on literary subjects to the Mexican colony. Maria Grever, famous musician and composer, and Jose Mojica, young and accomplished tenor, have given successful recitals here.

The whole cultural motif of San Diego is colored by the historical fact of the Mexican colonization, and much of the interest in the city centers in the Mexican traditions and customs, yet class lines and racial heritage have prevented the people from Mexico from presenting a united front to the Anglo-American world.

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11

There is a great deal of work to be done in the
country, and it is necessary to have a large
number of men to do it.

The first thing to be done is to clear the
land, and then to plant the crops.

The next thing to be done is to build
the houses, and then to build the
fences, and then to build the
roads.

The last thing to be done is to
plant the trees, and then to
plant the vines, and then to
plant the grapes.

The first thing to be done is to clear the
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the houses, and then to build the
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roads.

BELIEFS AND SUPERSTITIONS

To what extent the religious beliefs of Mexican people degenerate into superstition, is something very hard to decide. No less than 98 per cent of the Mexicans are Roman Catholics, or at least they believe they are. No matter how opposed a man or woman claims to be toward the Catholic faith, regardless of his affiliation to any other religion, or his culture, or even his pledges to secret societies and lodges, the Mexican is Catholic in his heart. He believes in miracles and superstitions, the latter being classified by groups. One cannot overlook that Mexican people have originated from two strongly religious cultures, Spanish and Indian, Catholic and Pagan.

In many fields the Mexican people who come to the United States become influenced and changed by the American; that is in many fields ~~but~~ the religious. Mexicans have their own churches all over the country where the Mexican population is in evidence. They attend services, mostly the women, in these churches, and very seldom so much as visit any other Catholic church but their own. The clergy of the Mexican churches encourages its parishioners in their traditional customs, offering them certain appointed rites and festivals in accordance with their beliefs; these ceremonies, announced in Spanish, do not attract the non-Spanish-speaking parishioners. A partial list of what could possibly be considered superstitions in which Catholic Mexicans concur follows:

St. Raymond Nonato is supposed to help in childbirth cases and is specially worshipped by women in the family-way.

St. Lucy. Advocate against eyesight troubles.

St. Anthony the Abbot, is protector of house pets. One day every year is dedicated to the blessing of cats, dogs, birds, and all kinds of pets. People gather outside a church, carrying their pets gaily adorned, and a priest gives them his blessing in memory of St. Anthony.

St. Lawrence is considered special advocate against fires and burns.

St. Christopher is held as patron of travelers.

St. Thelmo is patron of sea-faring people.

St. Plas. Advocate against throat trouble. On the day of the year which is dedicated to this Saint, the priest passes two blessed candles around the parishioners' neck to preserve them against throat disease.

St. Mathew[†] is supposed to control the winds and the frosts.

St. James, portrayed always riding a white horse to fight with the Moors, was the protector of the Spanish conquerors, and therefore, the Indians' foe.

St. Pasqual Bailon, worshipped by the Indians with dances inside the church, is considered the herald of death. It is a common belief that he raps three times in succession at a short distance from the person whose death is near, so it will not reach him before he has a chance to prepare for death.

St. Cayetano, it is supposed, was very fond of betting. People who wish something to be done in their favor, bet the Saint he will lose, so he takes interest in winning. They use a kind of prayer which takes the form of a challenge, betting opposite to their wishes.

"San Cayetano, San Cayetano
te apuesto y te gano,
a que no gano."

(St. Cayetano, St. Cayetano,
I bet you, and I'll win,
that I will not win).

St. Rita of Casia is called "Conqueror of Impossibilities" supposing she will overcome the greatest of obstacles and hardships. She is revered by all the Mexican Catholics.

The Virgin Mary is venerated in many forms, the most popular of them, among the Mexican Catholics, being that of the Virgin of Guadalupe. The legend or tradition says that she appeared three times to an Indian named Juan Diego, on the Tepayac Hill near Mexico City, about four centuries ago, and became the Indians' protector. When Miguel Hidalgo, a Catholic priest, proclaimed the independence of Mexico on the 16th of September 1810, he adopted her picture as his flag, giving the Virgin of Guadalupe the highest command in his rebel army.

Catholic churches dedicated to Mary of Guadalupe, exist by the hundreds all over Mexico. In San Diego there is one on Kearny Street, built mainly with donations and supported by Mexican Catholics.

Sometimes the Mexican Catholics indulge in practices almost of pagan character, as those dedicated to St. Anthony of Padua. In addition to the use of blessed candles to beg the divine favor, candles which are lighted in front of the Saint's altar, and the extensive display of blessed medals, scapulars and relics, sold within the churches, may be mentioned what some of the believers

do to implore favors from Saints. As to St. Anthony, for instance, some of them hang his picture with the face against the wall, or head-down, to urge the granting of the favor they are begging. If they think St. Anthony stays indifferent, they hide his picture in a drawer, and they believe they are punishing the Saint.

In the sotes dealing with religious articles (two of them at San Diego) there may be found hundreds of different pictures and sculptures of the Saints, which are sold to the believers for their honoring at home. Scores of little prayer-books and dedicated mostly in Spanish, to each Saint, that point out the saint's virtues and publicize his miracles are sold, so as to maintain the faith of the Catholics. It must be stated that some of those practices are forbidden by the ecclesiastic authorities, but the believers contrive to perform them. Among these practices there is one dedicated to the Saint Magnet Stone (Santa Piedra Ima), unequivocally pagan. A little book praising its marvels is sold everywhere at Spanish book-stores for a nickel.

It would be almost impossible to summarize in a few lines all the names of the saints and their respective deeds for the believer. According to every Mexican Catholic resident who has been interviewed on the subject, every town in Mexico has its patron saint. A noticeable majority of San Diego's Mexican population has arrived from Sonora where St. Francis Xavier is most honored. His church is located at Magdalena, Sonora, where white people and Indians often united in pagan and religious ceremonies and rites. In late years, they said the State government destroyed the sculpture representing the Saint, and closed the church to combat what was branded as

fanaticism among the Indians.

It is an incontrovertible fact that at least 90 per cent of the Mexican homes in this county, display in prominent places a number of religious pictures consecrated by the worship of members of the family. On most doors a primitive cross made of palm leaves (blessed at a special ceremony on Palm Sunday) is placed by the dwellers to fight misfortune. Inside the homes there may be found other tokens of Catholic faith: the blessed candle to be lighted in case of grave danger or death; a piece of blessed bread intended to fight extreme poverty; a small bottle of holy water to be used in case of serious illness.

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NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE

INTERVIEW WITH MISS JONES, October 27, 1936.

Mexicans no longer yearn to return to their homeland, according to Miss Jones of San Diego's Neighborhood House. Their attitude has changed during the past five or six years. Too often they receive pitiful letters from those who so eagerly returned to Mexico to be regretful and wish they were back.

At one time they would come to Neighborhood House and with utmost secrecy confide that they wanted to become a citizen of the United States but stressed ^{the fact} they wished their intentions kept secret as they would be condemned by their own people. One man is now endeavoring to prove that he came here in 1905 but as yet no positive proof can be found. If he can prove he came prior to 1906 he will not have to file citizenship papers.

Mexican boys and girls from the age of 16 to 19 years were born in United States. They show an interest in the coming November election, asking counsel on the meaning of votes, how to fill in ballots but definitely know for whom they will vote for president. Apparently they take little or no interest in politics in their own country, perhaps to remark that Mexico has again changed presidents. They still hold a patriotic sentiment for their country, especially the older generation who will always want to go back but cannot because of their children. It has come to the point of choosing between their country and children. Mexico does not appeal to the younger generation and they will not go there to live.

The Neighborhood District is overcrowded as there is always a scarcity of houses. Families migrate constantly which is customary with the Mexicans, who love to travel, one instance being of a Mexican family who lived in New York City for six years. They come from as far east as Pitts-

burgh, and great numbers cross the border into Texas and come here. The influx of Mexicans into United States began in 1909 and 1910, although Mexicans migrated here before that date but not in large numbers. Statistics of Mexicans in United States have not been taken since the government census in 1930 but judging from the crowded Neighborhood district there has been a gradual increase.

Multitudes of Mexicans migrated to United States during the war when labor was scarce. Consecutive revolutions in Mexico kept them in constant fear for their lives and there was little work and poor pay. Mexican labor is still in demand, and they find employment as laborers in construction work, as fruit pickers, and the Santa Fe and Arizona Railroad Company employs numerous Mexicans, but since natural gas is used ~~less~~ laborers are needed. The Spreckels Street Car Company employs Mexicans for manual labor, but the chief occupation of young men and women is working in the San Diego canneries. W.P.A. also depends on Mexican laborers as cement finishers. Imperial Valley, an outstanding agricultural county, keeps Mexicans well employed in their lettuce and cantaloupe crops. One of the leading unions is an agricultural workers union affiliated to the Mexican Federation of Labor, an agricultural group that could not afford to meet the high dues of the American Federation of Labor, and so organized their own union. They first met at Neighborhood House. All meetings were held very secretly and guards were always stationed so that no unidentified person could enter the building. Twice their salaries have been raised. There are several other unions, but being very suspicious of each other they have nothing in common.

As a whole Mexicans are ambitious, if they can own an acre of land and a house they are happy. Among the lower class, beans or frijoles is their main dish. They have no ovens in their home to bake with but are anxious to learn the art of cookery, especially to bake cakes. Twice a week they come

to Neighborhood House to do their personal baking. The men come to Neighborhood House on Sundays and play horseshoes and watch ball games.

Mexicans are very sincere in their religious beliefs and Neighborhood House is non-sectarian. There are several Protestant churches in the Neighborhood district that have fairly good attendances, but the Catholic religion predominates. Their strong faith and belief in the Virgin Mary is most touching, and they keep a vigil light burning in her honor. For nearly any situation in life they have a saint to pray to, and of these Our Lady of Guadalupe is most beloved. The twelfth of December is a holiday in her honor, a day for fiesta and parades. One little girl says that she will always love St. Joseph best "because he saved her mother's life. Her mother was very ill, so she prayed to St. Joseph to save her mother's life and he did."

Little Mexican children love to hear and to tell fantastic stories told to them by their elders. Their favorite being the story about the 'devil doll'. The doll is made of wax or rags and is stuck full of pins or thorns from the maguey plant. It is believed that the enemies of the family suffer excruciating pain so long as the pins remain in the doll and unless the curse is removed the person soon dies as the pain becomes so great.

During the summer months Miss Jones takes the Camp Fire Girls to Dehesa, California, where they have a mountain cabin. The particular year it was decided the mothers and little children would go along. All plans were made, the mothers had all been granted permission from their husbands to go when one Mexican mother came saying that she could not go offering numerous flimsy excuses. After much persuasion even to taking a huge baby buggy for her infant she agreed to go and apparently enjoyed herself. On the return trip she rode in Miss Jones's car and evidently

feeling she wanted to offer some sort of apology for her actions asked Miss Jones if she knew the reason she had not wanted to go and then told this mythical tale: Some one had told her that there were many snakes in the mountains, and she was afraid for her baby. She said, "that a snake would always know when a nursing baby was close and in the night he would come while the mother slept and take all the milk from her breast putting it's tail in the baby's mouth. In the morning the mother would find her breasts empty and think the baby had nursed during the night, the baby would get sick, grow thinner and thinner and they wouldn't know what was wrong." This mother so firmly believed this tale she had stayed awake nights during her stay in the mountains, every morning her breasts had been full of milk so she knew the snake had not come.

(Mr. Aceves was present at this interview and every time Miss Jones mentioned 'snakes' he would rap on wood).

1. The first part of the document is a letter from the

author to the editor of the journal.

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editor to the author, in which the editor expresses his

appreciation of the author's contribution to the journal.

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author to the editor, in which the author expresses his

gratitude to the editor for his kind and helpful response.

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confidence in the author's ability to complete the project.

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gratitude to the editor for his kind and helpful response.

Eustace L Williams
5/12/37
Edit-Holland 5/12/37

RACIAL MINORITIES SURVEY - MEXICAN

Andres ~~Alonzo~~, shop keeper and official bouncer of suspicious looking and unruly Mexicans who may appear from time to time in ~~Olvera~~ Street, Los Angeles, came here with his family as a refugee from the revolution. Their home was in Aguascalientes, state of the same name, in the central part of Mexico, which is rather a low and tropical part of that country. His father, a rancher, had prospered for many years under the long Porferio Diaz administration, but when the old president's power was broken they lost interest in their native land and started for the United States. Though Andres cannot be armed with any official authority from the state or city, because he is still a citizen of Mexico and hence without power to arrest, he works very effectively in the interest of law and order. He often gets information of much value to the police. Not long ago he tracked down three notorious thieves of clothes and jewelry, and when the officers finally picked them up it was discovered that two of them were badly wanted in San Francisco and the other other in Los Angeles. He is very proud of his position and on occasions dresses in all the regalia of the Mexican--distinguished looking sombrero, heavily embroidered bolero,

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sash and trousers with gorgeous gold slashings, thus making an addition to the Mexican atmosphere of the Olvera Street shopping center which is interesting to Eastern tourists.

For the management he collects rents from the stall keepers, settles small disputes between them, enforces sanitary regulations and sees to it generally that things run smoothly in the street. He is a silversmith by trade. However, since his arrival in Los Angeles he has had many different kinds of jobs and avocations, but now that the depression is passing, he expects to put in much more time making silver jewelry.

"I was born in 1888," he said, "and spent the first 19 years of my life on a ranch. My father had a place of about 800 acres, 25 miles from Aguascalientes, where he raised all kinds of fruit and vegetables and sold them in the city. There were nine children in our family--five boys and four girls and I was the next to the last one to arrive. We had plenty of horses on our place and as boys myself and brothers did a lot of riding around over the hills. Automobiles were practically unknown in that neighborhood in those days. The road to town was fine and down hill all the way and our wagons full of vegetables, would make the trip in about four hours which wasn't bad. But a good team with five mules could take a coach to town

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in two hours--not fast as an automobile but plenty fast.
That was the way the people traveled then."

The immemorial love of a Spaniard for a mule comes out strong in the Mexican and when Andres' English rather failed him in his attempt to describe those dashing trips from his father's ranch down to Aguascalientes, his brown eyes sparkled and he leaned forward in his chair and clapped his hands. It might have been the report of the cracker at the end of the long lash.

"Undele, undele" he exclaimed and you could see the five little black mules throwing themselves against the breast straps and breaking into a rapid trot. "No" he added pridefully, "we didn't need automobiles in those days; we went to town," quite unconscious of the slang. In pleased reminiscence of that period of his youth when four footed means of transportation entered quite as largely into his life as the automobile does with that of every ~~other~~ person today he continued; "We had some fine horses. One of them cost my father 380 pesos but the usual price was around 40 pesos. A good mule could be had for 25 and a donkey for only 12 pesos. The mules were never shod because they would slip too much on the paving and when on the road a rapid trot was their slowest gait. It wasn't such a killing pace--they lasted 12 or 14 years before we turned them out. Of course it was up grade coming back from town but vegetable

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wagons were returning light and did not lose much time. Nor did the grade make a great deal of difference to a team of five good mules and a light coach. Also the mules were coming home where they knew that they would be fed--that helped a lot.

"I received my education in a private school and finished in seven years. I learned a little bit of English which meant a good deal to me when I began to pick it up in this country. After I was 19 years old I went to work in a market stall in town where I sold produce from my father's place and also general merchandise. This was my first lesson in keeping store but I have had a lot of it since then. One of my brothers also came to town and got a job as a clerk, but all the rest of the family stayed at home and helped father on the ranch. After several years at the market stall I got a job as a timekeeper.

"Then the revolution broke out and I went back to the city and a friend taught me the trade of silversmith. I worked at it for four years and really learned how. Then I was anxious to get away because the revolution was becoming very bad and so I came to Los Angeles. Here I first got a job with a manufacturing jeweler named Mora and was with him two years until he died. Then, as there did not seem to be much in the jewelry business, for a while I found a lumber yard in San Pedro where I worked for six months.

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After that there was a strike on the West Pacific and that gave me a place that lasted for about a year. My next job was with the Pacific Telephone Co., in San Pedro. It was with the construction gang and that lasted for three and a half years. I had a market stall for a year and then came back from San Pedro to Los Angeles and worked for myself at the jewelry trade for three years. Since then I have been in Olvera Street."

Andre's stall is one of the most elaborate in the street. He stocks a wide selection of gaily ornamented sombreros; many different kinds of earthenware vessels and cabinet ornaments of both Mexican and Indian manufacture, and of course a line of silver jewelry. He also takes special orders for silver work. The most profitable item in his stall is his Mexican candy. He says that it out-sells all the rest of his stock put together, and in fact, is the principal support of his business.

He has never married because he has always been too busy taking care of the members of his family. Soon after he got his start in Los Angeles, he brought most of his family here to live with him. It was only after the revolution had reached ~~to~~ a very serious state that his father decided to leave Aguascalientes and come to Los Angeles. He offered the ranch for sale and received but 9,000 pesos for it which was a great blow to the family's

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financial prospects, because in quieter times he would have gotten several times that amount.

"I don't know that I will ever become an American citizen," he said. Like many of his countrymen he may look upon the effort that it would take -- just too much trouble. It seems to be a case of "Manana, manana" with a lot of them. He is very well satisfied with his present status and has no desire to take a hand in local governmental affairs.

"I like this country because I always get my rights here and because it is always so quiet and peaceable. There is never any trouble. All a man has to do is to keep straight and he will be let alone.

"In our family--what there is left, because my mother died two months ago and my father two years ago, we always talk Spanish but I read both in Spanish and English. I sometimes get papers from Mexico but usually depend on the ones printed in Los Angeles. I also read stories--sometimes Spanish--sometimes English. I don't take any interest in political leaders and while I like music, like any Mexican, I play on no instrument. Never took a hand in sports except horseback riding and maybe a little baseball at Aguascalientes. Will never go back to Mexico. Like it too well here. I get my rights.

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RACIAL MINORITIES SURVEY - MEXICAN

Mauricio Calderon, whose music store is at 408 North Main Street, Los Angeles, does a profitable business among his countrymen in the sale of Mexican sheet music, which is written and published in the city of Mexico. He does not handle music produced by American publishers, though when the sale of phonographic records were at their height some years ago, before the general advent of the radio, records made in the United States were in considerable demand among Mexicans, though even then the music that appealed to people of Spanish descent was favored.

"The Mexican people, whether at home or abroad," he said, "are devoted to their own music. No matter how popular a piece may be in this country very frequently it does not meet the Mexican's idea of the best harmony. I am not a musician myself though it was my fondness for music that attracted me to this business. Some years ago right after the revolution had forced me to leave Mexico I was in El Paso without a job and without a business, remained there about a year trying to make up my mind what to do next. Then I decided that the sale of phonographs and records to my countrymen who had been driven out of Mexico would prove a profitable business. Particularly was I interested in offering music that was reminiscent of the homeland. Soon after that I went into business in Los Angeles and the idea

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proved profitable from the first."

Mr. ~~Calderon~~ speaks English very well and it was surprising to find that though he had been here for 22 years, and actively engaged in business all that time, he had never become an American citizen. However, he had a very ready explanation for that position.

"This is my second country," he said. "I am devoted to it and I love my life here. So do the members of my family, yet I have a reason that is satisfactory to myself, and also of some real benefit to the home of my adoption, for never having taken out citizenship papers in this country. Almost from my first arrival here Mexicans in many different walks of life in Los Angeles have come to me for advice. Occasionally it was for business reasons but oftener on account of some trouble that had arisen growing out of misunderstanding with the manners and customs of this country. Understanding the life here, as I believe I now do, I was in a far better position to advise citizens of Mexico than if I had become a citizen of this country. They listened to me as a Mexican where they might have suspected my motives as an American. When I insist that they obey the law then they know I speak disinterestedly.

"I was born in 1880, in the city of Chihuahua, state of the same name, and received my education in the grammar and high schools of that place. I was one of nine children,

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five boys and four girls - the middle one of the family. My father was in the grocery business and was quite well to do. He died in 1917 at the age of 80 and my mother, who is 93, ~~still~~ makes her home with me in Los Angeles and enjoys the best of health. Her memory is still clear of the time when Mexico was an empire under Maximilian, who with the French soldiers took possession of the country. I have often heard my father ~~also~~ tell about that time. He was of course very hostile to the foreigners but never actually took up arms against them. When in his late 20's he was engaged in business, and because of these interests could not get away to the war but hired a substitute, like so many men did in this country during the Civil War. After the defeat and execution of Maximilian some of his soldiers were driven out of the country but many others who were captured remained. They took Mexican wives and lived happily among the people. Our family were acquainted with quite a few of these Frenchmen and their descendants."

Mr. Calderon is 6 feet 3 inches in height, an unusually tall man for a Mexican. "But," he said, "I am the shortest of all the male members of my family, father and five sons. My mother, though is quite small, hardly 5 feet 3 inches. When I had finished high school I got a job as telegraph operator at the Mexican Central R.R. station at Chihuahua. I was 15 years old at the time. I had not studied telegraphy

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at school but picked it up when I was a boy. I soon made good as an operator at the station and held the job for four years, then, when I had reached the age of 20, in 1899, I was made the station master and held that job until 1908. By that time the revolution had begun to stir the people and I decided to give up my position with the railroad and go into the knitting business. However, this was not entirely with my father's approval, for with the first movement of the revolution he quit the grocery business and put his affairs in order so that he could not be hurt financially by any outbreak that might follow.

"You may remember that Porferio Diaz who ruled Mexico so long got into power himself by a revolution. At that time my father was opposed to him. But it was not long before he realized that Diaz was giving the country a strong government and that this would mean peace and prosperity. Then he became very much a Diaz man. Towards the end of the Diaz rule, and he saw that he was losing his power, he felt very strongly that the break up had come and that a real revolution was at hand. Long before others could see it coming he claimed that it would be very terrible and would last throughout many years. He certainly foretold what came to pass. For this reason he got out of all business in good time. He also advised his sons and many of his friends to do the same thing. Some of them took his advice

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and they proved to be as fortunate in their affairs as my father was. So I did not stay in the knitting business very long but sold it, and in 1913, when times were getting very bad at Chihuahua I went to El Paso. It was not until two years later that my father left Chihuahua and came to El Paso and I regret very much I did not bring him with me because his life might have been spared to us a few years longer.

In 1914 shortly after my father came to El Paso the assassination by Villa of many of his American friends occurred at Santa Isabel. You may remember that there were about 30 Americans in this party who believed that they had been given the permission by Villa to work a certain mine property and they were on the way to the mine when they were set upon and shot down. Villa was no patriot - he was a bandit. My father knew many members of that party and grieved a great deal over the affair and of the trouble which it brought upon his country, for it was not long after that that the marines landed at Vera Cruz and Pershing was sent to the border with the United States army.

"Since my coming to Los Angeles I have been in business at the present location. I was married in 1905 at Chihuahua, and I have two children, but my wife only lived seven years. They were the happiest years of my life. I have never married again. My wife died in Philadelphia following an

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operation for cancer. For this reason I have never returned to Chihuahua and indeed since coming to the United States have never crossed the border into my native land. It would be too sad a journey for me. My children were educated in Los Angeles. My son is in business with me. My daughter is married and living in El Paso. Besides my mother and son I have three unmarried sisters making their home with me. Three of my brothers are in business in El Paso. Except for a short trip to Cuba I have never been outside of the United States since I came, and of course expect to spend the rest of my days here.

"I had no especial interest in sports when I was a boy though did play some baseball. My reading is in both Spanish and English, though Spanish is spoken almost exclusively in my home. Having been educated in Los Angeles of course my children speak most fluently in English. But they speak Spanish very well also for I saw that they were properly instructed. I have no especial interest in painting or in fictional reading. Most of what I read is in the daily newspapers and has to do with my business.

"I think this is the greatest country in the world. I like it for its peace and security and also for the great opportunities to get along in the world."

NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE

Neighborhood House is a residential settlement in a Mexican neighborhood. Miss Anita Edgar Jones, Director, came here six years ago directly from Hull House, Chicago, where she was associated with the late Jane Addams for two years. Located at 1809 National Avenue, the settlement began in 1912. During the ensuing years it was under varying names but is now firmly established under the title of Neighborhood House. The lives of more than 500 families in the vicinity are enriched by a year-round program that combines education and cultural development with recreation and relief. It is controlled by officers and a board of sixteen directors and supported by a private contribution and Community Chest funds.

To ~~eat~~^{keep} out an existence, thru the depression when Community Chest funds were rapidly diminishing, a garden fete was suggested. As an annual spring event it has proven a success. The benefit is given in the lovely gardens of the George Marston home and is one of the most distinctive and elaborate affairs of the season. A wide variety of entertainment is arranged for the guests. From two until six o'clock the gardens become a gay and colorful Mexican fiesta. Mexican troubadours in their bright costumes stroll thru the gardens and Mexican dances are a special feature. Some outside talent is donated but most of the entertainers are from Neighborhood House. A puppet show, a movie show, special prizes, a fish pond, and a fortune teller are some of the attractions of the fete. There are booths

artistically arranged displaying lovely cut flowers, and flower prints over 100 years old. Food sales are held; there are tamales for immediate consumption and to be taken home; also a booth of homemade cakes, cookies, and candies. All proceeds from booths and from the gate (admission is fifty cents) go to Neighborhood House, netting five to six hundred dollars a year.

Neighborhood House Clinic, 1819 National Avenue was erected and dedicated to Miss Mary Hart Taylor in 1934. A long low building built of adobe bricks, Spanish-type architecture is 77 ft. long by 34 ft. wide and is supported by the city, which supplies medicines and serums. Doctors and nurses volunteer their services and Miss Taylor, Public Health nurse is in attendance.

In 1915 Miss Taylor and a committee of women opened a milk station for the poor, Edgewood Farm giving milk four months to prove the urgent need. In January 1916 the city council appointed Miss Taylor to take care of Child Hygiene for San Diego. Aid is given from the County Hospital, the School Nurses, the Red Cross, the Churches, the Community Chest agencies, and the Needlework Guild. The records of the City Health Department show that to date, approximately 90,000 persons have passed through these clinics. First aid is given annually to more than 1,000 people; a number of vaccinations given; and from 250 to 300 babies cared for. Statistics show that infant mortality rate has lowered. Whenever necessary tonsilectomy operations are performed, the children remain in the clinic 24 hours, cots are placed in the reception room and they are cared for by graduate nurses. The clinic gives an average of forty quarts of milk daily, and special formulas are prepared. There is a Pre-natal and Post-natal Clinic, the

Sick Baby Clinic, the Regular Well Baby Clinic, Dental Clinic, and the Gynecological Clinic. Classes of instruction are given weekly. The Little Mothers' Class is divided into three groups: 7 to 10 years; 10 to 12 years; and 12 to 16 years old, classes in Infant Care, and for mothers and pre-natal instruction are given.

When the Red Cross distributed flour in 1932 to the poor, Neighborhood House built an out-door oven made of adobe cement, the only cost being twenty-five cents for a bar of angle iron to use over the oven opening. Mothers were taught to bake by an unemployed baker, before this children were suffering from the consumption of soggy, uncooked tortillas.

Neighborhood House Kindergarten is attended by a daily average of forty children during the school year. A Day Nursery for boys and girls ranging in ages from two to five, gives mothers an opportunity to seek work with the assurance their children are well cared for. There is an average attendance of 30 children. At noon children from the Day Nursery and Kindergarten have lunch together.

Among the activities of the house are classes for English, Sewing, Cooking, Dancing, Orchestra, and a Chorus. A citizenship class to receive instruction and advice regarding application and qualification for naturalization papers. The boys have club room, athletic teams, and a newspaper. There are various clubs, the Doll Club for children from six to twelve years old, Dramatics, Tuesday Singing Club, and the Camp Fire Girls. There are annually 1,500 children participating in these activities.

A Mexican Fiesta is given by the Neighborhood House every fall.

The festival is held in the square adjoining the clinic where there is continuous entertainment from two until six o'clock. A colorful scene is the play written by Winifred Davidson, noted California Historian, given on the outdoor stage built of adobe. A typical Mexican dinner is served on the corridor of the adobe clinic building. Homemade cookies, cakes and candies are sold. All proceeds from the fiesta are given to the clinic fund.

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"PEDRO SANCHEZ"

"Pedro Sanchez," 50 years old, was born in Leon Guanajuato. Although his father was a butcher, he made his living weaving straw hats ~~made~~ of palm leaves. He came to this country in the fall of 1913, crossing through El Paso, Texas and in this manner avoided being sent into the Mexican Federal Army. He was shipped from an employment agency in El Paso to work on a section crew for the Southern Pacific Railroad on a section between Yuma, Arizona and El Indio, California. He also has worked picking oranges and lemons and at various kinds of construction work.

At the present he is working for the Santa Fe Railroad on a section crew. Conditions of living and work are very bad; and the wage scale is \$2.50 and \$2.70 per day. Even though the company furnishes the water, light, house, and wood, the workers are forced to buy their groceries and clothing from the "Holmes Supply Company" which sells its merchandise for almost twice as much as can be bought in any other store.

As to labor unions he thinks they are very good, that is if they are not guided by unscrupulous leaders or are company unions which do more harm than good to the workers. Although he believes that there is more activity and work now than in 1933, conditions are not better due to ~~the fact of~~ the high cost of living, ~~he says.~~

The customs here are quite different from those in his country, in regards to married life, raising ~~and upbringing~~ of children, as there is too much freedom and laxity and these conditions contri-

bute to the destruction and sanctity of the home. He does not believe that a woman should work outside, that her place is in the home, taking care of her children. He says the woman who works and helps to support the home develops a sense of superiority. In the village where he married his wife the custom there in regards to the asking for the hand of a girl in matrimony is as follows: The man would go to the woods and bring back a big heavy load of wood which he leaves by the door of the girl's house, if it is taken into the house that signifies that he is accepted and if it remains outside it means that he is rejected.

His views are of the time he lived in Mexico and as he cannot read nor write he cannot say much on the present political situation of Mexico. Of the American people, he says that like elsewhere there are good and bad, and of the native sons of Mexican descent they remind him of the bat, that they are neither birds nor animals, meaning that the majority try to deny their nationality and are too dark to pass as Americans, and others are too false to be Mexicans.

He and his wife are Catholics and they confess frequently and abide by all the other religious dictates, and they think that all others that change from the Catholic faith do so for the sake of convenience. He also believes in witches and "Duendes" (1) and that a stuffed humming-bird carried in one's hat brings good fortune in matters of love, and that a doctor cannot cure a person ailed with "Ojo" (2) or "Empacho" (3).

He says that Americans live very fast, and that most automobile drivers would rather die than get late to the place where they are going, instead of better late than never. In Mexico he drank "Pulque" (4) instead of water, and the so called Mexican dishes sold here are only imitations and only "los Nopales" (5) and "las Verdolagas" (6) are the genuine Mexican dishes, he also likes "atole" (7) and all kinds of piquant sauces.

He considers himself a man without a country but desires to spend his last days in the town where he was born.

(1) Goblins, Elves.

(2) Evil eye.

(3) Some strange stomach sickness.

(4) A native brew extracted from the century plant.

(5) Young cactus hearts.

(6) Purslain.

(7) Mexican cornmeal.



THE [illegible] OF [illegible]

BY [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

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[illegible]

[illegible]

D. H. M.

He is a Mexican, ~~now~~ 26 years old, and has
been in California for 7 years. He is of pure white
descent, and has red hair and in the features
of our conception of a Mexican. But he is the
most man in two legs I have ever met.
He is notorious for his escapades. He has plenty
of money, and seems bound by no rules or
regulations whether self-made, man-made
or God-made. He has many a time roused a
house at 3 in the morning, organized
a party, and made whoopee until midday
next morning. He is a lights in poker parties
with 3 ~~other~~ and dimes wild. He is generally
leaving the ^{the money} to go to Los Angeles and back again
at the most unexpected times. He is not ^{as you see} in 5 different places.
Whether he ever pays rent I don't know
but signing at all five places, reveals that
"Yes, Mr. Plow, lives here, but is out just
now." He is a fellow of fact he is supposed
to be an engineering student at Stanford.
He at any rate is receiving a sum of
money monthly from the government of Mexico
to purchase his studies here, but outside

of paying the first quarter. I don't ^{know} believe he
has ever attended service. Probably one of these
days he will get tired of eternal slumber,
many, and settle down on his return to
Mexico, get in a fight and get shot.
It is hard to conceive of him dying in his
bed peacefully at an old age. He has
too much vitality.

The informant is a young man, now some 30 years old. He is of Mexican birth and because his father was a general in the Mexican army, and in with the present government, the son was subsidized by Mexico, to receive his education in the U.S., and so spent 3 or 4 years at Stanford University.

He is white skinned and red haired and is the antithesis of the average Mexican in looks, but the very embodiment of our conception of Mexican character, being slothful, pleasure loving, disdainful of work, and yet very hot tempered. He is very patriotic, delighting to call attention to his Mexican birth, and in land in the praise of the virtues of his country.

He is now engaged as clerk in a coffee business office, where his knowledge of Spanish and American stand him in good stead. A few years ago he married a very lovely American girl and his married life has been quite happy.

He is of no great depth in seeing a problem, but he is definitely anti-clerical, and tells me that nothing in Mexico has been over stressed in American newspapers, that we are to know the great wealth controlled by

Catholic clergy and the uses they have put it ~~to~~^{to} to,
and then realized the illiteracy and abject
poverty in which the great mass of Mexican
peons live, there would be great support here for
the present policy of the Mexican government,
which, he says, is founded on land for
the poor and government education for the
young.

My attention was then drawn to the very efficient young man who has served me on several occasions when I have stopped for a bite to eat at a Mexican store in the city.

The other day I told this man that I was looking for a man who had come to this country from some other and had differences and experiences that I had for both and so forth, but I did not know where to find him. He told me if he had, and about his experience.

He said when he was a boy of eleven he was taken to this country, he did not say by whom, but he has an uncle who is in business here also.

At that time he was schooling before he came here. His father's estate, within a radius of ten miles from Guadalajara, Jalisco, which is the third city in size in Mexico. He calls himself Mexican not Spanish as so many of them do, and of course he is correct. He was born in Mexico and so was his father and all his ancestors as far back as he can trace them, but his name is Spanish, Alvarez, his language and the customs of his people, so he simply tells you that at some time or other the family must have come from Spain.

He is simple, frank and unaffected, and his life seems to be sung in the cord which everyone should be "Benatural". In 1915 his father was killed in the war in Mexico and he left him some property, but the Government has confiscated a lot of it. I asked what they would do with it, he said, "give it to the people but it will not do them much good, because they have nothing to work it with and no money." He has a very telling story of what he has left.

He has been back to his country five times, the last time was last year, at which time he found a great change. I never should have guessed that this man, who is only about thirty, had been specially fitted for his special training and knowledge had he not told me, he is very capable and looks like a person who could do anything he attempted.

By profession he is an architect. I think he is a person who has a good deal of beauty and harmony in his being. He likes his country best, for the reason that a lot of us who come from other countries do; it is a place where they can appreciate the real meaning of leisure and pleasure, and then all stop for a rest from twelve to three every day. While here in this country it is all hurry and scurry, hustle and bustle and no one is happy unless they are making money. Some day he expects to go home.

the government has standardized the San Francisco, Calif.

Ereclio Bernal:- Mexican born, his father was a barber in Mexico and he states that as a boy he can remember that the price of a haircut or shave in his fathers shop was about six cents, or for the same amount of money one could have a tooth pulled or leeches applied. At the time he was nine years of age his parents moved from Mexico City to Pueblo, he says at the time of his families arrival there the population was about 95,000 but at the present time it is approximately 20,000 more. He went through the grade school in Pueblo and as his father was doing fairly good in his business he was sent back to Mexico City to live with a paternal aunt and to continue his education, as his parents had determined to have him become a lawyer. He finished his law course and was admitted to the bar in Mexico City in 1922 and shortly afterwards returned to Pueblo and established a law office. He elaborates on the beauties of his home town telling me it is one of the most beautiful and healthful spots in all Mexico. Bernal would pass for a Nordic and doing the course of the conversation said that his mother was an Oaxaqueña from the state of Durango, an extremely fair skinned tribe, a tribe of Indians which has produced some of the outstanding soldiers of Mexican history and an extremely hardy race of people. Bernal in the course of his law practice became somewhat of a politician and at present is in the United States on business pertaining to the Mexican Exposition to be held in the southern part of California soon. Bernal says he is impressed with the difference in the element of time between the courts of Mexico and the United States, whereas an ordinary case in the courts of this country is tried and disposed of the same case or one of a similar nature in his country would take from four to five times the same time to be disposed of. I asked him how he had happened to be named after one of Mexicos famous bandits and he told me that in the region where his mother was born that the original bearer of his name was regarded not as a bandit but more as a modern Robin Hood, as he was from Peon parentage and a good deal of his plundered goods had gone to the poor people of his tribe. He has two children both boys and upon the question being asked if he intended to educate them in the United States he said no, that they would receive the same or better education in any subject they cared to take up in Mexico City and at a great deal less expense. He is very optimistic as to his countrys future and especially so under the present President. He says he can see no reason for one of his countrymen remaining in this country unless he is in comfortable circumstances, as under the present setup in Mexico the people are taken care of to a degree where no one suffers want if he is able to or cares to work. The ordinary family who are destitute are provided with land enough to supply their wants and the implements to work it and are taken care of until they are self supporting. The laborers, even to the Indian peons in the mines, are paid not less than a dollar a day which is sufficient to provide all the necessities and some of what the ordinary peon would call the luxuries of life. He says what hardships the average Mexican laborer undergoes he brings upon himself as he says the poorer class are by nature and instinct rovers, and under circumstances where they are comfortably housed and working steadily for no good reason at all they pack up what belongings they have and away they go, although under the present setup the Government are doing their best to discourage this trait. He states that although he likes this country he will be glad when his business is finished and he returns to his home. When I asked him about the morals of the lower class of peons of his country he stated that although they suit well enough there they would be nothing to brag about in this country, especially the marital relations of the people, although more and more the marriage relations are becoming recon-

San Francisco, Calif.

Arceles Hernandez - Mexican born; his father was a barber in Mexico and he states that as a boy he can remember that the price of a haircut or shave in his father's shop was about six cents or for the same amount of money one could have a tooth pulled or leeches applied. At the time he was nine years of age his parents moved from Mexico City to Pueblo, he says at the time of his families arrival there the population was about 20,000 but at the present time it is approximately 20,000 more. He went through the grade school in Pueblo and as his father was doing fairly good in his business he was sent back to Mexico City to live with a maternal aunt and to continue his education as his parents had determined to have him become a lawyer. He finished his law course and was admitted to the bar in Mexico City in 1922 and shortly afterwards returned to Pueblo and established a law office. He elaborates on the benefits of his home town telling me it is one of the most beautiful and healthful spots in all Mexico. Pueblo would pass for a world's and doing the course of the conversation said that his mother was an Oaxaqueña from the state of Oaxaca an extremely fair skinned tribe, a tribe of Indians which has produced some of the outstanding soldiers of Mexico history and an extremely hardy race of people. Pueblo in the course of his law practice became somewhat of a politician and at present is in the United States on business pertaining to the Mexican Exposition to be held in the southern part of California soon. He says he is impressed with the difference in the element of time between the course of Mexico and the United States, whereas an ordinary case in the courts of this country is tried and disposed of the same case or one of a similar nature in his country would take from four to five times the same time to be disposed of. I asked him how he had happened to be named after one of Mexico's famous patriots and he told me that in the region where his mother was born that the original bearer of his name was regarded not as a patriot but more as a modern manhood as he was from "don parentage" and a good deal of his pinched nose had gone to the poor people of his tribe. He has two children both boys and when the question being asked if he intended to educate them in the United States he said no, that they would receive the same or better education in any subject they cared to take up in Mexico City and at a great deal less expense. He is very optimistic as to his country's future and especially so under the present president. He says he can see no reason for one of his countrymen remaining in this country unless he is in some special circumstance as under the present setup in Mexico the people are taken care of in a degree where no one suffers want if he is able to or cares to work. The ordinary family who are destitute are provided with land enough to supply their wants and the implements to work it and are taken care of until they are self-sufficient and the laborers even to the Indian people in the mines are paid not less than a dollar a day which is sufficient to provide all the necessities and more of what the ordinary man would call the luxuries of life. He says what have the poor average Mexican laborer and farmer he brings upon himself as he says the poor class are by nature and instinct rovers and under circumstances where they are constantly housed and working steadily for no good reason at all they have what belongings they have and away they go. Although under the present setup the government are doing their best to discourage this trait, he states that although he likes this country he will be glad when his business is finished and he returns to his home. When I asked him about the morals of the lower class of men of his country he stated that although they are all enough there they would be nothing to brag about in this country especially the marital relations of the people. Although more and more the marriage relations are becoming more

-ized more and more, the government has standardized the fee for marriage and it is now less of a luxury, and he states although he has never had a divorce case among the lower class he has settled many cases and always the couple just separate the mother or father placing the children if there are any with some of their relatives.

couple

R. V. Armstrong

is now less of a luxury and he states although he has never had a divorce, among the lower class he has settled many cases and always to the satisfaction of the mother or father placing the children if there are any with her or with their relatives.

Copy

Born in Mexico 28 years ago.

He had a grammar school education. At the age of 16 years he came to Calif with his parents, his father had secured work in Oakland.

Since coming to Oakland he has been attending night school and working at a gas station. He is studying accounting.

His father is 50 years of age and works as a laborer with the Southern Pacific Co. He had little schooling ^{but} has no mechanical or manual ability.

Since 1929 the family has been in fair circumstances.

He has always been told that Mexican labor
was brought into this country by force
and large corporations because ^{mexicans} they
could work for less than American labor and
no doubt, was true as far as it went; but
a Mexican told me this morning that an other man
he ~~was~~ ^{said} telling me that in largest part
Mexican immigration to this country, a few years
ago, was caused by the continual revolutions
in Mexico and the unsettled conditions existing
there.

He claimed these revolutions were provoked
by economic financial and political
causes. It appears that a ^{new} ^{and} ^{different} ^{kind} of
revolution would enter a ^{main} ^{stream} ^{of}
the world's affairs, putting
the people of the world, during the future
century, in a position where on the one hand
the chapter would again be written
and a new chapter would be written and fight
for his time before being put to rest.
This means something very important.
There came to this country in 1925 the word

These conditions, ^{He went to} ~~first~~ going to El Paso Texas.

His father was a Mexican from a farm or really a farm laborer who sold his labor when and where he could.

When Felix landed in Texas he had just enough money to get by the immigration authorities. He shortly secured employment at hard labor and small wages. Eventually he came to the Americas and then to the West Coast.

His second employment was in a tough place where he had to work at which he was paid very little.

That is, when he could get employment as this trade like all others has been hit by the depression. Between jobs he was busy selling tickets to his friends.

He married a few years ago but he and his wife have since separated for some time. There were no children.

Felix is the most other Mexican and when his money is gone he usually has no money spent. He is now about 40 years old. He is not a singer and the only thing he will do

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San Francisco, Calif.

~~Enrique Warren~~ Evidently an assumed name as at different times during our conversation he referred to him self by a different name. ~~He~~ claims American birth but has lived in Mexico a good part of his life. ~~says~~ ^{He} ~~he~~ was born in New Mexico where his father was in the sheep business on a small scale. ~~states~~ ^{He} ~~he~~ left his parents when he was thirteen years of age and has been traveling around the country ever since, never establishing a residence of more than a few months or a year at the most in one place, except for two short sojourns in Federal penitentiaries, where he spent short terms for identical violations, Sec. P. C. 37.

After leaving his home he went to Arizona and worked on different jobs; farm work, and a short time for the Arizona water district Company as a sanharrow or ditch rider his duties consisting of walking and riding the water ditches looking for leaks and gopher holes, this was in 1922, after holding this job for a period of about a year was discharged for some infraction of company rules. ~~took~~ ^{He} ~~he~~ what wages he had coming and ~~in~~ ^{with} company of another Mexican went to Mexico and bought a quantity of alcohol and in bringing it into the United States was apprehended, ~~tried~~ ^{and} ~~and~~ being a minor at the time ^{he} was placed on probation, worked at different other jobs around that section of the country mostly in the cotton and fruit untill two years later he was caught again smuggling and this time was sent to a Federal Penitentiary. After about eighteen months was released and went to Texas where his mother and father had moved ~~to~~ in the interval of his traveling around the country. ~~states~~ ^{He} ~~he~~ stayed with his parents for a period of about two years until the term of his parole had expired when he ~~again~~ left and went to Ajo, Arizona, where ~~he~~ secured employment across the line in an American owned mine, stayed at this line of work for several months when the mine closed down and he started afoot for the United States. ~~he states~~ ^{He} ~~he~~ along the road some place several Chinese were walking along and about the time ~~that~~ ^{XXXX} that he entered the United States they came across the line behind him and all were arrested. Evidently his story was not believed as he says he went back to the penitentiary for another term. Has bummed his way over almost all of the country and says that the last two years have been better for the professional bum than at any other time as ~~the fact that~~ ^{there} is no work to be had works to his advantage, ~~due to the fact that~~ ^{there} are so many men on the road that in almost every place he has been ~~that~~ there are provisions made to take care of them. ~~and~~ ^{He} ~~he~~ says a "man that knows the ropes" ie: a professional bum, can live better than he ~~XXXX~~ ever did ~~doing~~ good times. Has no other ambition in life than to live the way he ~~is~~ ^{does} at present.

does

R. V. Armstrong

San Francisco, Calif.

~~Sh~~ Mrs. Consuello V. ¹⁰~~native born~~ Mexican woman, naturalized by marriage in 1914. ~~born~~ in the town of ~~Monclova~~, state of Coahuila, Mexico. Mr. V. entered Mexico as a co-partner in a mining venture in 1910 and made a considerable amount of money ~~staying~~ with his holdings until the trouble of 1916 when he was forced to relinquish ~~his holdings~~ and came to the United States with his wife who was the daughter of one of the former political leaders of Mexico and a member of President Diaz' cabinet. They settled in San Diego, California after crossing the line at Tia Juana, bought property and as her husband had gotten out of Mexico with enough money to be independant they decided to remain in this country. Mrs. V. says she started to learn the English language but although being a highly educated woman in her own country she states that the English language came very hard to her and after one very embarrassing incident where she mispronounced a word ~~in~~ trying to make a purchase in a department store she gave up trying for a period of over a year. They bought their own home and several peices of property besides. Shortly after coming to the United States they had two daughters ~~born~~ both of whom they are educating at the present time although she states that with the shrunken incomes from their property it is quit a struggle to keep them in school. She named one of the most expensive girls schools in the West that they ~~were~~ attending at the present time. Mrs. V. has made several trips on visits to her home in Mexico but says she has nerer had any inclination to go back and live there and in fact after a few weeks visit was always glad to leave for her home in the United States.

R V Armstrong

1685

Header ~~they~~

Report: Mexican

I was born in Hermosillo, State of Sonora, northern Mexico. In our family I had ~~4~~ ⁵ boys and ~~2~~ ³ girls. I am the oldest one. We all went to school in Hermosillo for about ~~eight~~ ^{eight} years more or less. After that I went to a mill and when I came here I was working in mills and carpenter shops. It is just about 14 years. I came because my father told me I was working with him. Rather than work there I went to Los Angeles and after ~~that~~ ^{that} I came up here. I never worked at any other trade and ^{Ohave} made money to my satisfaction, just enough to run a business and a recreation out to the country in our leisure. Business has not been so good and will remain like that as everybody seems to hold more on money than on their health. I myself wanted to buy a big bike for my boy, but the price is too high. I see perhaps I have to buy a second hand one and so I let you know that we too feel depression around this season. Wages are lower than usual and everything otherwise is high. much higher than before.

907

Mexican, age 49, married, no children, lives East Oakland, works for self in prospecting, etc. Born in a little mining settlement in Northern California.

Original family came to the state in early days & located in Northern part of state. Father worked in mines & also had some small placer claims of no present value.

Went to country school & in later years prospecting received much of his own attention. Located a mining claim near Quincy, Cal. & this year built two cabins & with limited equipment was able to take out \$300.00 worth of mineral during a brief experiment, which he sold to a firm for use as an alloy, but owing to depression & a depleted market for his product & it cannot be produced & sold at a marketable profit.

With his brother & others is also interested in 160 acres in Southern Calif. This land has been determined as oil land & next year they expect to develop the property.

Has studied geology quite extensively as well as mining & has some interests that may materially develop if he can hang on & wait for a rise to better times.

He claims to have control of a certain new fruit canning formula that will revolutionize the avocado & at present is trying to interest several large canning companies on a royalty basis. It is claimed to

so successfully preserve the fruit that it will not deteriorate even in prolonged exposure.

Low prices, combined with winter elements, prevents developing his mining property & he has returned to Oakland to take active hand in gaining recognition for his other interests that seem to indicate he may hurdle the obstacles of depression that has been so long enduring until there is a profitable outlet in developing mining properties.

645
San Francisco, Calif.

Mrs. Maria R. A widow, Mexican nationality, is at the present time the owner and proprietor of a small Spanish tamale parlor in the Mission district.

States she was born in the vicinity of Ensanada, Mexico where she spent her childhood on the ranchario where she was born and where her father was forman. At the age of 16 her parents moved from the ranch her father taking a job with an American promotor named Blackman who at that time owned a large strip of land running along the coast comprising almost ten million acres. This man was attempting to colonize this land with American southern negroes. This lasted only a short time as the native Indians in that section of the country were hostile towards these would be colonists and finally made so much trouble that the negroes who were not killed in the ensuing few years of the attempt left and the project was abandoned. She states that her family then moved to Tia Juana, Baja California where her father put what savings he had into a curio store where they stayed untill 1911 when they were plundered by insurrectos and came over to the United States where she married an American born Mexican. Mrs. R. states that she and her husband moved to Los Angeles where her husband had relatives. There they started a small grocery store specializing in Mexican commodities and manufacturing tamales on the side. They stayed here for a good many years untill the death of her husband left her with two boys. She states she raised and educated these boys, one of them at the present time being connected with the Sheriff's office in Los Angeles and the other an employe of the State Highway Commission.

Several years ago she says she sold her holdings in Los Angeles and came to this city to live with her sister who was also a widow and living here alone. States that At this time she has sufficient money for her needs for the balance of her life and some months does not do enough business to pay rent on the small place she now operates but as she has always been busy all of her life she says that she would rather have something to occupy her time than just sit around and do nothing. She states that she makes periodic visits to Los Angeles to see her relatives living there and has never crossed the line into Mexico since the day she left and in fact refers to Mexico as the ordinary American would, i.e. not as one would expect, her own country, but as a foreign country.

R V Armstrong

Theresa J.

Report Mexican

549

I was born in Bordelia a small place near the district
Federal of Mexico. I have no brother ~~and~~ no sisters
when very young my parents moved to Los Angeles.
My schooling was all done in Los Angeles ~~and~~
~~the time~~ ^{then} I was out of school I wanted to go to join
the navy but was rejected, and went to work for
a garden. Things for me seemed hard and I cannot
count how many different jobs I had. I am here in
this town for the last two years and have been mostly
in the cannery. I am with my parents and do
have off and on work. I think it is better here than in
Mexico and I intend when times are better to
become a citizen. For the time being I just make
enough to get by as I do not work a full week.
Once in the beginning here I was working all six days
a week and had \$1.00 a week. I don't know why the cannery
has less work, perhaps because many have no more
the money to send their laundry.

JUL 27/34 # 8

43
Mexican Age 37 Born Mexico
Folks in Hermosillo, Mex.
Married (Separated)
Occupation Painter
Lives in San Leandro

REMARKS:

This man is a rough painter,
but depression has found it impossible
for him to obtain work at his trade &
is now working as a car washer. It
is rather indefinite to prophecy as to
whether or not he will ever be
considered as one to contribute much
to the advancement of American
culture, not since we now have
repeal of the 18th Amendment.

Would classify as "Below Required Intelligence".

JUL 27/34.

4

51
Mexican Age 43 Born Guadalajara, Mex.
Folks in Mexico One brother in Los Angeles
Married No children
Occupation Foreman Painter & Color Mixer.
Schooling in Mexico.
Lives in Oakland

REMARKS.

Has held good jobs ~~as~~ ^{as} Foreman of
large factory gangs, is an expert color
matcher, artistic lettering, &c. Lost
position thru a depression failure & is
doing odd jobs when obtainable. Speaks
Castilian as well as Mexican & has
studied Latin. Is naturalized & expects
to remain in our country & no doubt
will contribute to cultural progress to
a marked degree.

Would classify as "Intellectual."

FRANK H. H. H.

701
San Francisco, Calif.

J. H. (Mexican Joe Rivers, 8, 7, 1902

Born at Santa Rosalia, Lower Calif.

~~XXXX~~. Came with his parents to Los Angeles, Calif. where his father died shortly after their arrival from Mexico, ~~says~~ he managed to finish the grade school and one year of high school when he had to leave and help support his mother and younger brothers and sisters. Clerk in a Mexican grocery store in Boyle Heights Los Angeles and as he had been somewhat of an athlete at school became interested in boxing and in a short time was a professional fighter. States that during the second year of his career he made approximately fifty thousand dollars and his earnings increased steadily for a period of three and one half years. Says that during this period he took care of his relatives until he was supporting a miniature colony as they came from near and far. (So far as the money part of his narrative I am reasonably sure of the truth as I seen him fight in Hollywood in 1927 before a packed house and seats at three fifty to ten dollars each) He states that in out of an estimated two hundred thousand dollars he earned in five years he quit with less than a thousand dollars to show for short period of prosperity. He states that he has worked at several different occupations the last few years all the way from acting as a messenger boy to digging ditches. ~~says~~ he has no plans or hopes for the future except to try to earn enough to buy the necessities of life for him self and his family. He has rather an unusual personality and seems as happy and contented penniless as if he had saved all he had ever made.

M. J. Rivers

San Francisco, Calif.

J. H. (Mexican Los Rios)

Born at Santa Rosalia, Lower Calif.

Came with his parents to Los Angeles, Calif. where his father was a miner. After their arrival from Mexico, says he managed to finish the grade school and one year of high school when he had to leave and help support his mother and younger brothers and sisters. He had in a few months of school become interested in boxing and in a short time was a professional fighter. States that during the second year of his career he made approximately fifty thousand dollars and his earnings increased steadily for a period of three and one half years. Says that during this period he took care of his relatives until he was supporting a miniature colony as they came from near and far. (So far as the money part of his narrative I am reasonably sure of the truth as I knew him first in 1927 in 1927 before a packed house and saw at three fifty to ten thousand dollars states that in out of an estimated two hundred thousand dollars he earned in five years he put with less than a thousand dollars in new for actual cost of property. He states that he has worked at several different occupations in the last few years all the way from acting as a messenger boy to digging ditches. He has no plans or hopes for the future except to try to earn enough to pay the necessities of life for him self and his family. He has rather an unusual personality and seems as happy and contented penniless as if he had saved all he had ever made.

W. H. (Mexican Los Rios)

Mexican, Age 41, Married, lives in East Oakland.

One of a large family, born in Oakland, machinist by trade, apprenticeship having been served with auto mfg firm & ship builders.

Family all speak fine English. Schooled in public schools.

Since depression has worked on a reduced basis which has been somewhat of a barrier & prevented progress of normal times.

Has a nice appearing boy who has been thru grammar school & now attends high school, belongs to R.O.T.C. takes part in athletics & is studying music.

This family is of immaculate appearance, ambitious for its welfare & in human interests the family seems to be a unit.

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489

San Francisco.

Pete Valencia. *ma*

Mexican, Born in Vera Cruz, Mexico. His father was technical employe of Pearson and Sons, a firm of British Engineers having holdings at that place. He received his education at the public schools of that city and after leaving school was employed by a stevedoring company as a timekeeper. States his company employed a cosmopolitan array of labor, Mexican, Italians, Spaniards Chinese, Japanese and at one time several American Negroes, and in the course of this form of employment learned something of the fundamentals of several different languages. After seven years at this job he went on a German liner hauling dyewood logs from Vera Cruz to Germany, here he held the position of assistant to the steward and twenty two months later was discharged at San Diego, Calif. and given his fare back to Vera Cruz, ~~his home~~, but instead of returning to his home he went to the nearest port of entry in Mexico and emmigrated to the United States and proceeded to Los Angeles, Calif. and secured employment in a Mexican restaurant at that city as a cook. Worked at this occupation for about a year and went to work as general utility man for a Mexican newspaper, there his duties consisting of securing subscriptions, gathering news and soliciting advertising. He ~~done~~ very good at this position until at the start of the depression in 1929 the circulation fell off, and a year later the general exodus of the reading population of Mexicans in Los Angeles back to their native country so cut into the business of the paper that he found himself out of employment in the fall of 1934. Since that time he has worked at several different types of employment, none of it permanent, washed dishes in a restaurant for several months, was a janitor in a club in Los Angeles and for a while worked in the fruit fields in the southern part of the state. He has read ^{much} and discusses the economic situation ~~in~~ in his native country and feels that they have made more progress in the past four years than any country in the world, ~~and~~ is trying to accumulate enough money to return to his home. He states the alien labor law there has helped the natives to a large extent and says that an employer there is forced to hire one hundred percent native labor, ~~and~~ seems to think that the day is passing in Mexico when the only ambition of the better class of Mexicans is to enter political life and obtain some well paid appointment, ~~and~~ states that the past few years more or less of a civic spirit has sprung up among Mexicans of the upper class and they are not only subscribing sums of money for the support of the government but are forming social defense associations to better the economic status of the country as a whole, ~~and~~ thinks if the country continues to be headed by such men as the past two and the present man at the head of the government that the future betterment of his native country is assured.

R. V. Armstrong

Mexican, born in Vera Cruz, Mexico. His father was a technical employee of the United States Government, having been at that time, he received his education at the public schools of that city and after leaving school was employed by a contracting company as a timekeeper. He was then employed as a cosmopolitan agent of labor, Mexican, Chinese, Japanese and at one time several American newspapers and in the course of this work of employment he met a number of the fundamental of several different languages. After several years he went on a woman liner having a good time and then he went to Germany, where he held the position of a student in the German and twenty two months later was discharged at San Diego, Calif. and his fare back to Vera Cruz, this time but instead of returning to home he went to the nearest port of entry in Mexico and emigrated to the United States and proceeded to Los Angeles, Calif. and secured employment in a Mexican restaurant at that time as a cook. Working in this occupation for about a year and went to work as a general utility man for a Mexican newspaper. He was then a utility man consisting of a general utility man and collecting advertising. He then very good at this position until at the start of the depression in 1929 the situation fell off and a year later the general condition of the population of Mexicans in Los Angeles back to their native country so that into the business of the paper that he found himself out of employment in the fall of 1934. He then has worked at several different types of employment, none of it permanent, working in a restaurant for several months, was a janitor in a hotel in Los Angeles and for a while worked in the fruit fields in the southern part of the state. He has read and discusses the economic situation in his native country and feels that they have made more progress in the last four years than any country in the world and is trying to make enough money to return to his home. He states the alien labor law there has helped the natives to a large extent and says that as a result there is forced to hire one hundred percent native labor. He seems to think that the day is passing in Mexico when the only ambition of the lower class of Mexicans is to enter political life and obtain some sort of political appointment and states that the last few years more or less of a civil spirit has sprung up among Mexicans of the upper class and they are not only subscribing sums of money for the support of the government but are forming social defense associations to better the economic status of the country as a whole and thinks if the country continues to be headed by such men as the past two and the present man at the head of the government that the future betterment of his native country is assured.

Theodore Frey
Report: Mexican

973

I was born in Guadalupe. My mother was German descent. I have a brother with whom I played often but it seemed impossible to see us separated.

I went to a private school and when I was 14 years old I quit more to help my parent than I liked to go to school.

My parents would not have moved if they would ~~not~~ had not lost so much in the mine they sold. Finally we sold all our belongings and we moved up to Los Angeles. I ~~was~~ in this city for the last 6 years and I have had work in many different places. For the last 2 years the earnings of my small family are not so good. I had to draw my savings and soon was one of the unemployed to work for charity.

Sorry to say that I ~~freely~~ ^{freely} not knowing any days of betterment of these times, we wish to assist you ~~for~~ ^{with} my advice. I am a real interested citizen of this town and I belong to the Democratic ^{Union} voters: wishing that the state ~~would~~ have a Democratic system and for all equal to Washington D.C.

Mexican Age 40
Married
Lives in Lower Oakland

This Mexican family are descendants of old Mexico people & have been in this country a number of years. One brother came up from Mexico - Hermosillo - to go on railroad at Los Angeles & this family followed later. Lived a while in Los Angeles, later San Luis Obispo, coming to Oakland where they have remained.

They are of truly typical Mexican ancestry but now live actively under our progressive ideals & speak very good English, although the accent of their native tongue predominates. They now have a small grocery & tortilla factory located in a small Mexican district, a district where prosperity appears to be very meager. Their place is none too tidy & appearance would indicate that they are living in the environment of indolence so characteristic of this race, although having confined themselves to many of our methods in other respects.

1. shipping bus.

2.

3. Porto Rico

4.

5.

6.

7. same

8. well-to-do.

9. practically bankrupt

10. socialistic since the depression affected personally

~~165E + F~~

F.

1. R.R. mechanic

2.

3. Jalisco, Mexico

4. — R.R. Co. offered job here

5.

6.

7. mechanic

8. earned good wages in San Bernardino as mechanic

9. no work at all in last 11 mos.

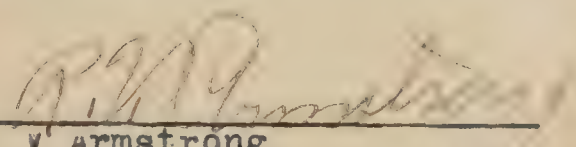
10. " would rather be object of charity in this country than a hard-earned in his native country

San Francisco, Aug. 1, 1934.

Among the different interviews that I have ^{had} held with people the conversation seems to invariably drift to economic issues, the viewpoint of the person being interviewed is more or less consistent with his financial status at the time of the interview. X in particular, a Porto Rican, a man who employed a large crew of his countrymen in his business which was connected with shipping in this city, for some reason or other his business has fallen off until at the present time he is almost bankrupt and with a large supply of equipment on his hands which is valueless to him, he is about to lose what small property he had acquired through years of hard work. The thing in particular that I noticed in this man's recital of his business losses was his trend of thought and conversation along socialistic lines. Over a year ago I met and talked to this same man, at that time he was going along with a fair degree of success with his business and at that time as far as I remember he had no criticism to offer on the policies of the country in general or the new deal.

F. a Mexican born in the state of Jalisco, Mexico, came to the United States at the instigation of the -- Rail Road in 1912, was ambitious to learn and better himself and finally went to work in a R. R. shop at San Bernardino and became an expert mechanic, his work was shortened from time to time until the latter part of 1930, he was laid off entirely, from then on he worked at short periods these periods of work becoming further apart until at the present time he has been unable to find employment for the past eleven months. When he was reminded that the Mexican Government were colonizing their nationalists and would probably furnish him a plot of ground and the implements to work it he replied that he would rather be an object of charity in this country than a land owner in his native country. In regard to any ideas he may have had in regard to national policies his reaction was to the effect that he hoped the Government would keep up their arrangement so that he could resume and continue eating.

^{where} The poll of opinion among the different people in different walks of life that I have interviewed reveals a surprising degree of ignorance towards the vast amount of legislature that has been enacted except, where it directly affects them or their personal business or affairs, although where there has been criticism in the accomplishments of the administration thus far none of them seemed able to, or cared to advance a plan that would work better as a whole except to their own advantage.


R. V. Armstrong

Period of time covered, week beginning.
July, 20, 1934. and ending July, 30, 1934.
time put in, approximately, 24 working
hours.

Born in Mexico 40 years ago.
He had four years schooling and
then worked in a mine. With his
father he came to this country when
he was 10 yrs. Learning work
as a laborer with the Southern Pacific
Co. in Southern Calif. At present he is
still working with them and has
worked steadily since 1929.

He has no mechanical or technical
abilities.

born in Guadalajara, Mexico 35 years ago. His father was a merchant.

When he finished grammar school he came to the States at the age of 16. For three years he worked in restaurants. He then passed word in the Pullman car shops in Washington where he has been working ever since. He is a very fine cabinet maker and mechanic.

Since 1929 he has worked steadily. He prefers this country to his own as it gives him a much better opportunity for self-education and work. Especially he believes this is true for women.

He has one child

2151

~~Jose Maria Argueta~~, born at ~~San Francisco~~, Calif.

Cruz ~~Morelia~~: Mexican nativity, born at San Jose Del Cabo, at the extremity of the peninsula of Lower California and speaks both English and his native Spanish with a Dr. Watson accent. ~~His~~ father was an immigrant from Germany who came to Mexico early in his life and married a native woman, ~~Morelia~~ taking his mother's name. He finished the fifth grade of the government free school and then after ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ tiring of the object poverty of his home, which he describes as little better than a hovel, he secured employment on a ship under Mexican ownership as a seaman.

They made frequent trips to San Diego and San Pedro the cargo consisting of Mexican granite and sometimes fruit, mostly tomatoes.

After several years of this ~~and~~ at the age of twenty two he deserted his ship in San Diego and went to the southeastern part of California where he secured employment as a cotton picker. ~~Following this form of work for a~~ period of about a year and a half when he was hired by the Southern Pacific Rail Road as a section hand and worked at this form of employment for about four years when he was taken from the job by the immigration authorities and after a subsequent investigation released. He returned to San Diego and was unemployed for several months and then went to San Pedro and through an employment agency went to work as a waiter on a floating cannery ship sailing for Alaska. ~~Speaks of this trip as varying little from the ordinary~~ trip, a few quarrels and an occasional free-for-all melée as there were almost two hundred and fifty people housed on the vessel, a heterogeneous company. Some were skilled workman of industry and of good habits, contrasted with these were incorrigible wharf rats. ~~he states~~ the work was hard, the food unfit to eat and the quarters unfit to live in although in his capacity as a waiter he managed to fare better than most. At the expiration of this trip he returned to San Francisco and joined the marine cooks and waiters union and since that time a matter of about six years has averaged around eight months a year employment, between times he takes an abode in a Latin quarter of what ever city he may be temporarily in while waiting to ship out.

R V Armstrong

San Francisco, Calif.

Jose Moravia: Mexican nationality, born at San Jose, Costa Rica, at the extremity of the Peninsula of Lower California and speaks both Spanish and his native Spanish with a Mexican accent. His father was an immigrant from Germany who came to Mexico early in his life and married a native woman, Moravia taking his mother's name. He finished the fifth grade of the government free school and then after finishing the first of the eight quarters of his home which he describes as little better than a hotel he secured employment on a ship under Mexican ownership as a cook. They made frequent trips to San Diego and San Jose the cargo consisting of Mexican granite and sometimes fruit, mostly tomatoes. After several years of this work at the age of twenty two he married his wife in San Diego and went to the northeastern part of California where he secured employment as a cotton picker. Following this form of work for a period of about a year and a half when he was hired by the Southern Railway and worked as a section hand and worked at this form of employment for about four years when he was taken from the job by the Immigration authorities and after a subsequent investigation released. He returned to San Diego and was unemployed for several months and then went to San Jose and through an employment agency went to work as a writer in a floating cannery ship sailing for Alaska. A number of this trip as working little from the sailing trip, a few quarters and an occasional free-for-all night on shore work. Almost two hundred and fifty people landed on the vessel, a heterogeneous company, some were skilled workers of industry and of good habits, but also those were intelligible what they had to say. The work was hard, the food unfit to eat and the quarters unfit to live in although in his capacity as a writer he managed to take better than most. At the expiration of this trip he returned to San Francisco and joined the various cooks and waiters union and since that time a matter of about six years has passed without eight months a year employment, between times he takes an shore job in a quarter of what ever city he may be temporarily in while waiting for a ship out.

N V Armstrong

908
San Francisco, Calif.

Mrs. Juanita Arguello: widow, born at Warners Hot springs, California of Mexican and Mexican Indian parentage, married a citizen of Mexico, in 1921 before the passage of the "Cable" act and thus lost her United States citizenship. She was married at Ruma Rosa, Baja California her husband at that time being a Lieutenant in the Mexican Army and stationed that place which quartered a regiment of Mexican cavalry.

Tells of her different moves around the Interior of Mexico in the five years following her marriage as it was the custom of the Mexican ~~XXXXX~~ army at that time and is yet for the wives and families of the soldiers, from the highest officers down, to move with the troops.

In 1928 her husband left the service and was employed for two years in a mine in central Mexico where in 1931 he was killed, states that at this time she came to Mexicali and applied for admission to the United States which move of hers was delayed for a period of about seven months as she was unable to produce a birth certificate but was finally admitted. Secured work as a domestic in San Diego where she stayed for a period of one and one half years, in the meantime sending her young son to public school. She says her wages during this period of employment was on an average of thirty dollars a month, the greater part of the time she was employed by a distillery owner who had his business in Tia Juana, Mex. and resided in San Diego. During this period of employment she states she saved about two hundred dollars and besides this in the early part of 1934. she received approximately eight hundred dollars from the company owning the mine where her husband was killed. Is at the present time visiting friends in San Francisco and states that upon leaving here she is going back to her home at Warners where her half brother has a small herd of dairy cattle and as his wife has recently died she intends to take what savings she has put it in to his business and keep house for him and help raise his four children and her own. Is a graduate of the eighth grade and her main objective in life seems to be the desire to educate her child.

R. V. Armstrong

9.2.16. 40% - 2.75 BAC

L 537

Frank ~~Pico~~ Mexican-Indian.

Born of Indian-Mexican parentage on the Rincon Indian Reservation in Southern California, his father was an original member of the Warners Hot Springs Indians. ~~His father moving~~ in the ~~sixties~~ eighties to the Rincon reservation when it was purchased and made a reservation by the United States Government. His mother was a Mexican Yaqui Indian a member of a refugee family from Mexico. His father was shiftless and, unlike the greater part of the families on the reservation who supplemented their Government allowance with odd jobs and garden plots, he refused to work and what extra funds came into his possession he spent for liquor and as a result his family's home life was anything but congenial and one continuous round of poverty. ~~He with his younger~~ younger brother attended the Reservation Indian school where he stayed until he had completed the eighth grade, ~~and~~ left the school and went to work in a blacksmith shop to learn the trade ~~of blacksmith and horseshoer~~. For his services here he was paid six dollars a week all of which he took home and the family for the first time had the experience of not being in actual want. ~~and~~ he states that the following three years were the happiest of his life and ~~he states~~ in talking of his father, ~~quote~~ "the old man died about this time so we didn't have to bother with him any longer", about three and a half years after he went to work his mother also died and he left the reservation and after some wandering around the country, part of which time he had odd jobs and the rest of the time he spent on the road as a tramp, he finally secured work on a large dam project near San Francisco as a blacksmith's helper, ~~and~~ stayed at this employment for a period of two and a half years when he was ~~laid off~~ and took up his tramping on the highway again. ~~he~~ states he has traveled thousands of miles jumping from one transient camp to another ~~and~~ says he is always well fed in this manner and on two different occasions secured clothes from these institutions and in general was as well off or better than when he was working. Says he never was refused admittance but once and this was due to the fact that he happened to tell the attendant ~~a different~~ a different story than he had told him the first time he was there and also checked in under a different name the second time. He admits that his sense of responsibility for his own welfare is gone and if he had any feeling of reluctance in living in this manner he has lost it also as he says he is leaving on another trip and is confident that as long as his supply of fictitious names and hard luck stories hold out he will be able to travel in a satisfactory state of comfort.

R V Armstrong

sent he is a mechanic working for himself. He is now 33 years of age and has no steady job or work. He has never engaged in agricultural work. He has not had any special heights in the curve of his depression-prosperity curve. He has always been better than poor probably due to his superior education and his ability to speak the English language well.

Case No. 3.

Juan Lozano. Brother of Gregorio. He worked for 10 years in Mexico at Guanajuato in a foundry, having had no schooling like his brother. Then he went to Mexico City where he also worked in a foundry. After coming to Berkeley in an automobile, he went to work in the coconut plant and worked there until 2 years ago when he was laid off. Since then he has operated a trucking business consisting of one truck and a few local hauls. He is 31 years of age, has four brothers and a living mother. His father was in the foundry at his home town and it is in this way that he became acquainted with the foundry trade.

Case No. 4.

Miguel De Alva. Born in Mexico in the state of Jalisco. Spent 18 years in Mexico. He had his first work in Mexico helping a wagon builder. Then he came to Oklahoma where he went to work on a R.R. section gang and in the waterhouse. From there he came by automobile to Bakerfields where he got a job in the oil fields as a helper on a caterpillar tractor. From there he came to Berkeley where he has worked on the Southern Pacific road maintenance gang from then until now. He went back to Mexico, Jalisco, in 1928 to get married and is now 29 years old. He had his best period of prosperity in 1926 in Bakerfield where he cleared 75 a month besides room and board in the oil fields. He is now a member of the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Union, No. 4 of L. Union., or rather a member of the railroad brotherhoods.

Case No. 5.

Ramon Martinez. Born in Tizocan near the capital of Mexico. Was an

2.
agricultural worker in the small city in the state. From there he went to Illinois
where he worked on a railroad ~~part~~ on the Santa Fe. R.R. Got his job in
El Paso thru labor agents. 3 years work on the ~~rr.~~ ^{road} Then he came here by auto.
There are six in his family. He now works for the S.P. ~~rr.~~ ^{outturn} ~~road~~ ^{passenger} work in 1930
six days a week. Now only five, in 1932. two and three days only. Mexicans in
Ill. are only working on ~~rrs.~~ ^{roads} Belongs to the same union as De Alva. His father
was a candlemaker. No schooling. Works 8 hours per day

Mexican 213
(1)

Garcia was born in Mexico in the State of Tobasco.

His parents were peasants. He was born in 1890, in that ^{time} the peasants in Mexico lived in a very bad condition.

His parents were religious so he was raised ~~under~~ ⁱⁿ the Catholic religion.

For nineteen years Garcia worked in the agricultural field, under a bad condition. ~~He~~ ^{over} could never earn enough, ~~only~~ ^{only} to eat.

In 1909 he decided to go ⁱⁿ to the Mexican army.

Garcia continued ~~very~~ ^{being} very religious. While in the army, he said he liked it because

(2)

the ~~economic~~ ^{economic} conditions were good, until 1910, then the revolution broke out in Mexico, then Garcia was forced to go & fight for his country.

Garcia did not know how to read or ~~write~~ ^{write}, is that's why he didn't know what every thing was about. Garcia went to church every day to pray, & he listened to the speeches the priest made in favor of the government. For four years Garcia fought in the revolution, the conditions were nothing but ~~missiory~~ ^{misery} & starvation!

(3)

In 1914, when Garcia found himself on the border, there he found a Mexican contractor, he promised them all a good job + good money here in the United States, he also promised him a free ticket to Missouri. In Missouri Garcia found out he was working for the Missouri Pacific Railroad Co. Garcia found out that the contractors promise was all a fake.

While he was working, the company was taking so much for his expenses, + also for his transportation.

(4)

He decided to continue working there because he couldn't read nor write, he worked until 1920, until he saved enough money then decided to go back to Mexico. When he reached Mexico he didn't find any of his family + he didn't know what became of them.

He thinks that probably they died during the revolution.

Garcia thought he'd get married ~~and~~ return to United States. He came to California & worked for a while in the agriculture fields.

(5)

He didn't like it there so he decided to return to the tracks again, and found work for the S. P. Co. in Oakland. In 1932 Garcia was laid off, his earnings were very low, so he was forced to go and ask for charity. At that time it was hard to get aid, so Garcia was forced to go out in the streets & beg for his family.

Garcia found a priest from the Seventh Street Mission & he told Garcia that he didn't pray enough, & invited Garcia to go to his Mission.

(6.)

Garcia didn't believe in
that mission because it
wasn't Catholic. They helped
giving him food. Now
Garcia is working for
the S. E. R.R. Now he
has changed his religious
opinion, he is against
the Catholics, & in favor of
the Pentecostals. He now
has work for the S. E. R. A.
& he wants to thank God.

~~Reginald Smith~~

1197

Mexican
Age 44
Married one minor
Lives East Oakland

Born in Old Mexico, where he has a brother, on an old-fashioned hand plow ranch, folks coming from the San Blas district.

When a boy worked on the extension of the railroad down the coast, later in a construction gang as cust. Foreman, learned the handling of powder & the use of tools. Also served in the Mexican Army.

Is a citizen & up to three years ago had a good job with a construction company, lost that & now works for a gravel company along the estuary, but not regularly.

Has a Mexican wife who was born in California & the child is a boy.

11

In 1912 David became an
 American citizen. Then America
 had war with Mexico and David
 enlisted in the army in the
 cavalry department. His troops were
 sent to Mexico to capture General
 Villa who was responsible for all
 these uprisings. When the war
 ended, David came home
drawn in the army, the
war made him much stronger
and he came home in very good
health. Then the World War
 in 1917 came on. David re-enlisted
 in the army and was sent to
 France. He was wounded in the
 leg. When the war ended he came
 home to Oakland, California. He
 worked with a slight limp, other-
 wise he was in good health. He
 started a small tailor shop and
 cleaning plant. At first he had
all his own work, then he became
became better and he worked with
men. Then he got married to a girl
from his old home in Valencia Spain.
They had three sons soon
the boys were old enough that

The most important focal point of commerce, is the San Francisco waterfront or Embaradero. Looking out on the Pacific ocean covering Honolulu and all the Asiatic ports, San Francisco is of prime importance to the commerce of the world. Immediately back of this city is a population covering more than one million.

Three trunk lines covering the entire United States enter the city. Also back of this metropolitan center are the farm lands of the Sacramento valley, the fruit land of Midwestern California, and the wheat lands of the San Joaquin valley.

Westward we have routes to the Oriental countries that in the

9

opinion of commercial exports, will be the next great theatre of commercial activities. Merely stating a few of these ports that will trade with California, or San Francisco, are Calcutta, Hong-Kong, Honolulu, Lankas, Manila, Sydney, Shanghai, Singapore, Tahiti, Valparaiso, Wellington and Yokohama.

In the Russian Territory, the political situation may contract any commercial activities that California may deal with them.

received in previous battles for her Country.

Her mother applied for customary pension and redress for her husband's death. She received nothing. The Country at that time was again in chaos, a new provisional President had been elected, records were claimed to be lost, and after a long expensive Court battle she received little for her troubles.

A year later M^r left Mexico with his mother, who was very angry towards her native land and bitterly denounced it for its ungrateful treatment of the widow of one of its soldiers. They migrated to the United States going immediately to San Francisco, where they had friends. They settled in the

later quarter and M^r continued 3
grammar school. Later his mother
went to work, M^r finished grammar
school at 18 years of age and went to
work.

His first job was in a candy
factory at \$6⁰⁰ per week. He worked
~~Steady~~ ^{Steady} and learned the trade thoroughly.

M^r obtained a job with a large local
Candy Company and worked for them
till the big fire & earthquake in 1906.

He and his mother were burnt out.
The great fire destroyed all their property
and they moved to Alameda.

When the rebuilding of ^{San Francisco} ~~the~~ started
they returned to SF and M^r again
obtained a position with the same
Candy firm he had been working
for.

M^r later married. One child was

born 2 years later. His wife passed away at that time. M^r worked steadily to the time of the war.

He enlisted in the US army in 1918 and like his father fighting-wounded himself ~~in France~~ and was wounded.

His mother and child both passed away while he served in France.

Upon his return he could not find steady employment at his own trade and was forced to earn a living at any job he could get.

M^r was receiving a small compensation for his wounds received during the war and the odd jobs he could often supported him nicely. He continued

for several years in the manner of
#11 never again married.

In 1932 M^r fell and broke
his leg. He was in a ~~V~~ ^Veterans
hospital for 6 months.

When released M^r could not
get any work. The ~~C~~ ^Country was in
the midst of a depression and he
was still weak from his long
~~hospital~~ ^Confinement. To make matters
worse, ~~the~~ ^{his} compensation the government
was allowing him was suddenly stopped,
in much the same manner ~~as~~ ^{as} had
happened to many other war veterans.

M^r health declined and he
was forced ^{on} to the ~~G~~ ^City's relief
rolls. Today M^r is working for

S. E. R. G. on one of its labors⁶
projects. His health is improved
and he has hopes to sometime open
a small ~~Gandy~~^{Gandy} store of his own
that he may be independent for
the rest of his life.

Sanchez - Santa Fe Road.

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Sanchez has lived in this part of the country about ten years . He was formerly from Ojos de Agua, Guanajuato, Mexico. He has had the same struggle for livelihood that almost all the other Mexicans in his part of the country have had. They all have had about the same experiences in living through the Huerta revelotions.

His parents had a small store and could afford to send him to school to the fourth grade so he could learn to be a printer. A misfortune caused them to leave for Guaymas. There he earned fifty centavos a week in a printer's shop. He used wooden rollers for the printing but the thing was too old, and the page came out all blurred so the man who owned the shop had to give up the business for he could not afford a new printer. Sanchez planned to open a shop himself with a new printer and just after the outfit came he ~~had to find~~ ^{found} himself ruined because of the "Revolutionists" who were coming.

He came to California a few days after his failure to run a printer's shop, and found work in Los Angeles in a newspaper. By that time he had married a Mexican girl and was the father of one boy, Don Julio. "One day I left home to go to Sonora for a wile . "I was gone two months and when I got back I found out that my employer was carrying on an affair with my wife and that she liked him. Immediately I left my wife and boy and came north to find work", he said.

Sanchez had a little money when he came north, and bought a small farm just outside of Richmond which prospered ~~more~~ more than his printing work did. When he bought his farm he noticed that near his place there was a Mexican ~~Dist.~~ district so he hired his own people to work for him. He formed a

partnership with a trusted friend and gradually they enlarged the farm ^{to} fourteen acres. They sold vegetables and milk to the district and to a few of the American neighbors. Two years after that, he married another woman, part Indian, regardless of the fact that he had not gotten a divorce from his first wife. The second wife died in six months. Sanchez doesn't want to marry again so he is living with a woman instead and likes it much better than marriage. The farm is not as good as it used to be four years ago but it keeps them in corn and vegetables for the district and helps to employ five Mexican men and one Mexican woman.

The farm had about five small carts on it that looked ~~like~~ ^{as though} they might have been ox carts. When asked about them ~~the~~ said they were ox carts but that they did not use them for that but as trailers for their car. They had cut them down so they would not be too bulky and had hitched them to their trucks in the fields. There ^{were} ~~was~~ only two horses on the farm so that made three trailers left over to be tied to trucks.

Sanchez does not like American meat. He says that it is never fresh like the meat they get in Mexico. Their favorite dish is stew in Mexico but here, because of the meat, they make their main meal of "frijoles".

~~Sanchez~~ is a Catholic for that is the religion that his parents taught him. Since he has been here he has not attend churches at all but spends his Sundays in the Richmond MC Dona'd Ave. Pool Hall. He said that very few of the Mexican men ever got drunk. They don't like the liquor here well enough for that. They call it "filth." Many of the Mexican woman make their own beer in their homes in huge crocks that they ^{made} have themselves. American beer has too much kick in it for them.

In California the Mexicans are able to save money if they are making any at all. Sanchez is still supporting his son ⁱⁿ Los Angeles, his housekeeper, and running a farm besides. They charge Americans as high as they can in Richmond. If Sanchez is about out of vegetables he will not sell them to American people if the Mexican people need them. ~~He~~ They are always thinking of each other. On First Street there is an eating house that is run by a Mexican man. He charges fifteen cents for one half a cup of chili con-carne. Across the street ~~(there is a place)~~ there is another place that charges ten cents for a large bowl of it. Strange to say, the highest place is doing the better business among the Mexican people, and has been doing so for ~~some time~~ these last five years. The Mexican ~~resent~~ folk resent the fact that Americans will ^{make} their foods and not charge as much for it.

In their stores they have big wooden bowls, about one foot in diameter, ^{placed} ~~setting~~ in the sunny parts of the stores, ^{and} filled with ~~seasoning~~ seasoning, centers of plants from Mexico. They do not sell any of it for it is that material that gives their chili con carne and Tamales their characteristic flavor.

Sanchez, because of his interest in newspaper work, has a collection of Mexican newspapers. These papers are distributed among the neighborhood and

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The first of these is the fact that the
the second is the fact that the
the third is the fact that the
the fourth is the fact that the
the fifth is the fact that the

the sixth is the fact that the
the seventh is the fact that the
the eighth is the fact that the
the ninth is the fact that the
the tenth is the fact that the

the eleventh is the fact that the
the twelfth is the fact that the
the thirteenth is the fact that the
the fourteenth is the fact that the
the fifteenth is the fact that the

the sixteenth is the fact that the
the seventeenth is the fact that the
the eighteenth is the fact that the
the nineteenth is the fact that the
the twentieth is the fact that the

the twenty-first is the fact that the
the twenty-second is the fact that the
the twenty-third is the fact that the
the twenty-fourth is the fact that the
the twenty-fifth is the fact that the

finally left for a short time on the stand
for anyone to look at without cost.
R They claim no interest in our news-
papers or magazines. Some homes
there have cheap magazines in them,
other than that and children's
school books, there are no other
books. The Librarian there states
that the Mexicans and Philipinos
have less to do with the books
than any other nationality down there,
and when they do come in they pick
up picture magazines. They seem to
like pictures, their homes are
littered with them, their stores
have them, and they symbolize
on paper while explaining something
to one.

The Indian Mexican folk speak
three languages - Indian Reby Fees
Spanish and English.



Don't Radin.

This story was told to me by a man I met on the water front

" I was born in the town of Rosalia which is in the state of Sonora in Mexico and on the Gulf Coast, that is of the Gulf of Mexico. My father was a man who used to operate a couple of freight boats, and he used to run^{ning} from Rosalia to La Paz across the Gulf of California and northward up to Guaymas, and down to Mazatlan.

I did not go to school much there as my father did not like the priests, who, he said, were running the country and taking everything they could from the poor people. These people used to work very hard in the fields and on the roads which were being built across the gulf from La Paz. They did not get much money for wages but it was always necessary to be donating to the priests who used to come and always collect.

My father used to talk me on his trip on the boats which were big freight "barques" and using gasoline. I became acquainted with young men who used to come into the port of Mazatlan in the big boats from San Francisco and who used

to go on down as far as Panama, ~~to~~

So one day I got a job on a steamer, the "San Jose", as cabin boy. I liked this job and made many trips between there and Panama and San Francisco. I was on this boat for 4 years and learned to speak English very well. When I joined this ship I was about 17 years old. My father did not want me to go away, but my mother was satisfied to let me go. I had 2 brothers so I did not feel that I was leaving them all alone.

The captain of the boat became interested in me because I was anxious to learn, and he got me a job in a commission house in San Francisco where my knowledge of Spanish and English was of great help.

I got along very good for about seven years when the war came along. I had become an American citizen, and I was drafted into the army. I went to Camp Lewis, and as far as New York, but then the war ended and I did not go across.

When I got back to San Francisco I found my old employer had died so I did not have any job.

I finally did get a job as supercargo on a boat going down the coast

as far as Callao, on the Peruvian coast of
South America.

Business got so bad though
in the last few years that the line
was discontinued, and as there were more
men in the company who had come to
work for them, I had to make room
for them. So at the present I get
work some times checking freight on
the wharves here, but I think it is
getting better and I soon may be
able to get something steady."

Frank J. Gafford

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Report

Dr Paul Radin,

This is the tale as told to me
by a man I met in the Embarcadero
opposite Pier #50 -

" I was born in the
City of Hermosillo, in the State of
Sonora, in Mexico. This is quite a
railroad town connecting with the railroad
which runs down from the United States
down to the point of Guaymas, on the
coast of the Gulf of Mexico. My father
was one of the men on the road who
had charge of a section or so many
miles of road, and my earliest recollection
is of ~~when I used to take~~ rides with
him for a great number of miles. The
passenger train only ~~ran~~ once a day
and also the freight but there used to
be quite a lot of work to be done. I
did not have any other relatives in that
part of the country of course except
my mother. The principal business around
there was catth raising and there were
a great deal of catth shipped up into
the northern district. I went to school
there and was a
very good student.

the young people and he did not seem to like it. When I was still a young boy of about 16 the World War came along, and my father, through the friendship of an American who was an official in the railroad, got work to do in Tucson, in Arizona and so we moved up there. He went to work on some bridge work. I liked Arizona much better and soon I was working on the railroad myself. My father had saved some money as he made good wages in the war time, so he bought himself a little home in Tucson. I ~~left~~ left there in 1923 and he is still living there with my mother. I got work on the Santa Fe Railroad in Borstow and stayed there 9 years, also working out of Los Angeles between there and San Diego. But the business got bad and I finally came up to San Francisco during the steelworkers strike. Right now I am living here in this construction crew camp but I expect we will be through here in about 2 weeks and then I think I will try and beat my way back to the Southern part of the state."

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St Paul Radin;

This tale was told to me
by a young Mexican whom I met
on the wharf at foot of Point St.

"I was born and
raised in the town of Ensenada, which
is in lower California, and about 60
miles south of San Diego. My folks
were storekeepers there, that is they
had a small "tienda" or store, and
my mother made all kinds of things
to eat such as tamales, enchiladas,
rice and sausages, corn breads and
cakes. My father helped her a whole
lot in this kind of work doing the
heavy work, such as grinding the
corn, and tending to the garden. I was
very small at this time, as I remember.

There was no one else in our family
except my uncle, who lived with us.
He was a very bad hombre and used
to work nearly in the town of Rosalia
where there was some plantations of
different kinds. He used to drink a
lot of "Tequila" and used to make
a lot of trouble quite often. One
night he stabbed another man in a

sent off to the calaboose for a term
of two years.

My parents decided that
they did not wish to stay in Ensenada
any longer so we moved up to San
Juana. At this place my father went
into the same business and we done
pretty good with the American trade
who used to come down across the border
on holidays. There was prohibition law
~~on~~ in the United States at that time,
and the tourists or Americans used to
come into Mexico for liquor. I went
to school here for about 4 years and
learned to speak English pretty well.

About 3 years ago business got
very bad so my father decided to come
to the United States.

They have a small store
now on Power St and I am going to a
night school ~~here now~~ learning to be
an automobile mechanic, and am able
now to do small jobs myself. I do not
think I would care to go back to Mexico
again.

Frank J. Lopez

Joe Hernandez was born forty years or more ago in Mexico. His father was Spanish, his mother^a fullblood Yaqui Squaw. His features and characteristics trend largely to the mother's blood. He is strong, alert, stoic.

For reasons he does not choose to explain, Mr. Hernandez endeavors to avoid contact with members of the Latin race. He refuses to live in the Latin quarter, and he will not stay at a hotel that caters largely to Latin trade.

He is a college graduate, an accomplished writer, and knows possibly as much about horses and racing as any man in the West. Frequently during local race meetings his signed articles appear in daily newspaper. His specialty is as "a caller." That is, he calls a description of each race over a loud speaker announcing hookup as the race is being run. In that capacity he follows the thoroughbreds from Mexico to California to Oregon, Washington and British Columbia; and is reputed to receive a wage of fifty dollars a day from the track owners.

Mr. Hernandez is not popular about the race courses, yet he bears reputation as strictly honest. That, undoubtedly, explains his ability to continue in a remunerative position coveted by many American citizens just as capable as he of holding the berth. Among others who can call a race just as accurately as Mr. Hernandez might be mentioned Mr. J. J. Murphy, Mr. Joe Epstein (now out of employment), and Mr. C. Harry Scott, (also unemployed).

Not infrequently, it is discussed about the Tanforan track the fact that a Spanish-Indian, born in Mexico, is given preference over American citizens. Mr. John Marchbank, himself an alien, chief owner of Tanforan, might explain the riddle. Also might Gene Normile, for twenty years a figure in Western racing.

With no reflection on the abilities and capabilities of Mr. Hernandez, it does seem unfair to native Americans that an alien should be given preference in employment even in the questionable sport of horse racing.

Mr. Hernandez has brought to America, or, rather helped to create in America, interest in a sport of questionable nature. He has stimulated interest in gambling. In fact, that is the sole purpose of his employment. He has taken part in an industry that any one of eighth grade mathematical training can prove is a certain losing proposition for everyone except the promoters; a business that has been linked with more scandal and graft than any other in the history of America. And he has taken the place of a capable and jobless American citizen who has every right to believe he has a right to earn his living above the right of a foreign-born temporary resident.

In brief, Mr. Hernandez "does not belong," socially, racially, or industrially.

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(NOTE:--But there's nothing your humble reporter can do about it!)

Report on mission.

1915

I am a Mexican born citizen of U.S.A.
No longer in cotton. Mexico where I was born
is also a place with many a missionary -
happy days.

Mostly every day after school we had
watching the soldiers in front of the arsenal in
that town. Our school was a Catholic school.
All the churches and missions are in that town and
have mission style. My eyes were very sore
at the guns and uniforms and all that stuff
in front of the arsenal where a lot of men were
cleaning and fixing. Well it was not long that in
November all the things had been distributed to
soldiers as the Revolucionistas were marching past
the town. I was in school and all of a sudden on
day the sisters went frantic, because from Tarragona had come
the news that the Revolucionistas were coming.
We ^{then} home and did not stop in front of the arsenal.
The next day all was filled with soldiers and
school. We could hear the roar of guns and it
lasted fairly long with soldiers all over.
My father was with the Carranza forces and often we
regularly ~~disappear~~ home for times. I was not
happy in that and of father a. 410. It was
no more safe ~~get~~ staying in town and we left
town ~~and~~ after a long fall in the hands of Villa.

My Mother

I Report Mexican

We ~~did~~ soon cross^{ed} the border and after staying in San Diego several years I came here where I found employment in a factory. I earned my living and had enough to send some to my mother to save for me.

I was tempted to enlist here for the war ~~to go to the front~~ in Europe but the war ended and I became a citizen just about 10 years ago.

I did feel ^{the} depression ~~too~~ long ago and I have had many different employments. I think all offices just now are busy and I am anxiously seeking any kind of employment.

I soon hope to see the long promised better business and after all good times have to come again. Better late than never.

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Mexican
Married
Two Minors
Lives E. Oakland

This man & family are typical Mexican, living in quarters among other Mexican. Works around where work is obtainable in factories & canneries.

Has two minors in Melrose school, a boy & girl. Has no particular talent & just does the best he can. Is not working steady, but it is better than he could do in his own country.

Lives in a cheap home, has a little garden, no car nor any of life's better things & there isn't anything of significance to indicate he were an unusual type of Mexican.

Speaks good English & is just battling his way.

San Francisco.

Mrs. Maria Sepulveda:-

Born at Sabinas, state of Coahuila in Mexico *and* was married at the age of fifteen to a man twenty years her senior. She states she had no schooling and had to be coached to read the literacy *test* when she passed through the immigration office enroute from Mexico to the United States. She states her husband was above the average of the ordinary Mexican laborer in intelligence, with a determination to earn a living by any other method than working, *and* for the first three years of their residence in the United States they were more or less on the road following the fruit seasons where there were Mexican camps her husband following the vocation of a gambler and tradeing in anything legal or illicit whereby he could make a profit. In a short time, *and* about four years after their arrival in the United States, he was sent to the State prison and at this time she went with her infant daughter to live with a Portuguese laborer who was employed in a shipyard close to Los Angeles. About a year later her husband was released from prison but instead of returning to her was deported to Mexico, *and* as she had the first home she had ever known and was treated kindly she refused to go to him in Mexico and to complicate matters had at this time another child by the man she was living with and her second child being a throwback to the negro ancestry of the man *she is now living with*, a typical negro child, the first would pass for a dark nordic or light latin. A year or so latter her husband turned up and immediately was reported to the Immigration authorities by her Portuguese paramour and was again sent to his native country. She states at this time they left the part of the country where they were living and moved to San Francisco this was done in fear of reprisal by her husband but since that time have heard nothing from him. The man with whom she is now living secures occasional employment and supplementing this with several boarders of his nationality they manage to live and have the necessities and some of the comforts of life. One of which was a phonograph which was kept going at full blast with Mexican and Portuguese music all doing the conversation which necessitates conversing in a loud shout in *able* to be heard above the socalled music. *order*

R. V. Armstrong

as there

Theodore Fry

LS 05

Report. Mexican

I have ^{WAS} been raised very strict^{ly} in Mexico and I have learned the watchmaking business in ^{the} ~~Mexico~~ ^{city}. When I came here I made the mistake ^{of} not bringing ^{my} ~~the~~ tools with me. I bought the lathe here and paid a good price. I never was much interested in jewelry repairs and I had my own shop here up to 5 years ago when I sold out, thinking I ^{would} get enough, ~~but was short~~. ^{My} surprise was greater when I worked for a firm and had in return so little that it was impossible to make a living. When I tried to find any other place for work it seemed to me that they all did not pay and even by taking work home I could not make it. I have been living on my savings and when that was gone, times ^{were} ~~here~~ ^{so} ~~bad~~ ^{bad} that work was scarce. I could not find any thing to think of and bills did pile up.

^P Finally I had to apply for relief and we have been ever since working for relief. Yes I was here and there and everywhere and in the Prosidio and Marina. I have seen and met many ^{people} and every body is waiting for better times. ^P I have had plenty sickness in my family and I have ^a feelings left to say how

The depression is what hit us like that. I can't even have ~~any~~ more lottery or race tickets ^{as} ~~the~~ I used to. ~~by my luck~~. I have no choice when I buy tobacco or a drink, because to tell you "la veridad" we can't stretch the money for that and I owe the rent.

The worst is gas and light bills; I wish I had a good kerosene lamp. You can't let the children go barefoot as it is very cold and damp and no doctor likes to ^{touch} my children, yes I have a few bills, but ~~it~~ ^{they} can't be paid. My amigos just sit in the same boat. When one gets a gallon ^{of} wine we just have a little party and forget our troubles.

P I was out on the Merced project and have been sent to the woodyard. We had a nice time when once a ~~frigate~~ ^{frigate} was sent down the marina and back again. **P** I am sure that it is impossible by all means to make ends meet with the present allowance for 5, and the present prices. Everything is high and too high taxed even by Weinsteins and second hand counters for old bread and vegetables. I have had last week a pair of children shoes soled and heeled and the price of \$1.00 did nearly make me mad. Too bad, just too bad is what you hear. **P** I do not know how it would be when things are running smooth, but I know that this much that it takes more than empty promises

my millions in a month

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